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GREENE COUNTY COURT HOUSE, XENIA.



HISTORY  
OF  
GREENE COUNTY  
OHIO

ITS PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

---

HON. M. A. BROADSTONE  
Editor-in-Chief

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VOLUME I

---

ILLUSTRATED

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1918  
B. F. BOWEN & COMPANY, Inc.  
Indianapolis, Indiana

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DEDICATION.

This work is respectfully dedicated to

THE PIONEERS,

long since departed. May the memory of those who laid down their burdens  
by the wayside ever be fragrant as the breath of summer  
flowers, for their toils and sacrifices have made  
Greene County a garden of sun-  
shine and delights.

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## PUBLISHERS' PREFACE

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History is a systematic record of past events; especially the record of events in which man has taken part. "The perfect historian," says Macaulay, "is he in whose work the character and spirit of the age is exhibited in miniature." A glance at the Table of Contents of this present "History of Greene County" will disclose a design on the part of the publishers of this work to set out here a systematic record of the events which have led up to the present state of development of this favored region, beginning with the time when white men first set foot on this territory, and in carrying out this design the historian has sincerely sought to preserve something of "the character and spirit of the age," so that there shall here be perpetuated a faithful chronicle of the aspirations and the efforts of the pioneers, at the same time tracing and recording the social, religious, educational, political and industrial progress of the community from its inception. The context will reveal the sincerity of purpose upon which the motive for the present publication is based; a purpose to preserve facts and personal memoirs that are deserving of perpetuation for the information of coming generations and which will serve as links uniting the present to the past. To those who have so faithfully labored to this end, the publishers desire to extend their thanks. An expression of obligation also is due to the people of Greene county for the uniform kindness with which they have regarded this undertaking, and for their many services rendered in behalf of the historiographer. It is believed that it will be found that this unselfish collaboration has secured to Greene county a history that will stand as a standard in this field for the next generation and as an authentic guide to future generations.

In passing, it is believed that it will not be regarded as out of place for the publishers conscientiously to claim that in placing this work before the people of Greene county they faithfully have carried out the plan as outlined in the prospectus upon which the work is based. Every biographical sketch in the work has been submitted to the party interested, for correction, and therefore any error of fact, if there be any, is due solely to the person for whom the sketch was prepared. Confident that our effort to please will meet the approbation of the public, we are,

Respectfully,

THE PUBLISHERS.

Midland £ 40.00 10-18-65 2 vols.



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# HISTORICAL

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## CHAPTER I.

### RELATED STATE HISTORY.

The first white men<sup>a</sup> to set foot upon the Northwest Territory were French traders and missionaries under the leadership of La Salle. This was about the year 1670 and subsequent discoveries and explorations in this region by the French gave that nation practically undisputed possession of all the territory organized in 1787 as the Northwest Territory. It is true that the English colonies of Virginia, Connecticut and Massachusetts claimed that their charters extended their grants westward to the Mississippi river. However, France claimed this territory and successfully maintained possession of it until the close of the French and Indian War in 1763. At that time the treaty of Paris transferred all of the French claims east of the Mississippi river to England, as well as all claims of France to territory on the mainland of North America. For the next twenty years the Northwest Territory was under the undisputed control of England, but became a part of the United States by treaty which terminated the Revolutionary War in 1783. Thus the flags of three nations have floated over the territory now comprehended within the present state of Ohio—the tri-color of France, the union jack of England and the stars and stripes of the United States.

History will record the fact that there was another nation, however, which claimed possession of this territory and, while the Indians can hardly be called a nation, yet they made a gallant fight to retain their hunting grounds. The real owners of this territory struggled against heavy odds to maintain their supremacy and it was not until the battle of Tippecanoe, in the fall of 1811, that the Indians gave up the unequal struggle. Tecumseh, the Washington of his race, fought fiercely to save this territory for his people, but the white man finally overwhelmed him, and "Lo, the poor Indian" was pushed westward across the Mississippi. The history of the Northwest Territory is full of the bitter fights which the Indian waged in trying to drive the white man out, and the defeat which the Indians inflicted on General St. Clair on November 4, 1792, will go down in the annals of American history as the worst defeat which an American army ever suffered at the

hands of the Indians. The greatest battle which has ever been fought in the United States against the Indians occurred in the state of Ohio. This was the battle of Fallen Timbers and occurred August 20, 1794, the scene of the battle being within the present county of Defiance. After the close of the Revolutionary War the Indians, urged on by the British, caused the settlers in the Northwest Territory continual trouble and defeated every detachment sent against them previous to their defeat by Gen. Anthony Wayne at the battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794. Although there was some trouble with the Indians after this time, they never offered serious resistance after this memorable defeat until the fall of 1811, when Gen. William Henry Harrison completely routed them at the battle of Tippecanoe.

#### TERRITORY NORTHWEST OF THE OHIO (1670-1754).

Ohio was the first state created out of the old Northwest Territory, although Indiana had been previously organized as a territory. When the land comprehended within the Northwest Territory was discovered by the French under La Salle about 1670, it was a battle ground of various Indian tribes, although the Eries, who were located along the shores of Lake Erie, were the only ones with a more or less definite territory. From 1670 to 1763, the close of the French and Indian War, the French were in possession of this territory and established their claims in a positive manner by extensive exploration and scattered settlements. The chief centers of French settlement were at Detroit, Vincennes, Kaskaskia, Cahokia, Fort Crevecoeur and at several missionary stations around the shores of the great lakes. The French did not succeed in doing this without incurring the hostility of the Iroquois Indians, a bitter enmity which was brought about chiefly because the French helped the Shawnees, Wyandots and Miamis to drive the Iroquois out of the territory west of the Muskingum river in Ohio.

It must not be forgotten that the English also laid claim to the Northwest Territory, basing their claim on the discoveries of the Cabots and the subsequent charters of Virginia, Massachusetts and Connecticut. These charters extended the limits of these three colonies westward to the Pacific ocean, although, as a matter of fact, none of the three colonies made a settlement west of the Alleghanies until after the Revolutionary War. New York sought to strengthen her claim to territory west of the Alleghanies in 1701, by getting from the Iroquois, the bitter enemies of the French, a grant to the territory from which the French and their Indian allies had previously expelled them. Although this grant was renewed in 1726 and again confirmed in 1744, it gave New York only a nominal claim and one which was never recognized by the French in any way.

English traders from Pennsylvania and Virginia began in 1730 to pay

more attention to the claims of their country west of the Alleghanies and north of the Ohio river. When their activities reached the ears of the French the governor of French Canada sent Céleron de Bienville up and down the Ohio and the rivers and streams running into it from the north and took formal possession of the territory by planting lead plates at the mouth of every river and stream of any importance. This peculiar method of the French in seeking to establish their claims occurred in the year 1749 and opened the eyes of England to the necessity of taking some immediate action. George II, the king of England at the time, at once granted a charter for the first Ohio Company (there were two others by the same name later organized), composed of London merchants and enterprising Virginians, and the company at once proceeded to formulate plans to secure possession of the territory north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi. Christopher Gist was sent down the Ohio river in 1750 to explore the country as far west as the mouth of the Scioto river, and made several treaties with the Indians. Things were now rapidly approaching a crisis and it was soon evident that there would be a struggle of arms between England and France for the disputed region. In 1754 the English started to build a fort at the confluence of the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, on the site of the present city of Pittsburgh, but before the fort was completed the French appeared on the scene, drove the English away and finished the fort which had been begun.

#### FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR (1754-63). **1324581**

The crisis had finally come. The struggle which followed between the two nations ultimately resulted in the expulsion of the French from the mainland of America as well as from the immediate territory in dispute. The war is known in America as the French and Indian War and in the history of the world as the Seven Years' War, the latter designation being due to the fact that it lasted that length of time. The struggle developed into a world-wide conflict and the two nations fought over three continents, America, Europe and Asia. It is not within the province of this resume of the history of Ohio to go into the details of this memorable struggle. It is sufficient for the purpose at hand to state that the treaty of Paris, which terminated the war in 1763, left France without any of her former possessions on the mainland of America.

#### PONTIAC'S CONSPIRACY (1763-64).

With the English in control of America east of the Mississippi river and the French regime forever ended, the Indians next command the attention of the historian who deals with the Northwest Territory. The French were undoubtedly responsible for stirring up their former Indian allies and Pontiac's conspiracy must be credited to the influence of that nation. This

formidable uprising was successfully overthrown by Henry Bouquet, who led an expedition in 1764 into the present state of Ohio and compelled the Wyandots, Delawares and Shawnees to sue for peace.

#### NORTHWEST TERRITORY AND QUEBEC ACT.

From 1764 to 1774, no events of particular importance occurred within the territory north of the Ohio river, but in the latter year (June 22, 1774), England, then at the breaking point with the colonies, passed the Quebec act, which attached this territory to the province of Quebec for administrative purposes. This intensified the feeling of resentment which the colonies bore against their mother country and is given specific mention in their list of grievances which they enumerated in their Declaration of Independence. The Revolutionary War came on at once and this act, of course, was never put into execution.

#### REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD (1775-83).

During the War for Independence (1775-1783), the various states with claims to western lands agreed with the Continental Congress to surrender their claims to the national government. In fact, the Articles of Confederation were not signed until all of the states had agreed to do this and Maryland withheld her assent to the articles until March 1, 1780, on this account. In accordance with this agreement New York ceded her claim to the United States in 1780, Virginia in 1784, Massachusetts in 1785 and Connecticut in 1786, although the latter state excepted a one-hundred-and-twenty-mile strip of three million five hundred thousand acres bordering on Lake Erie. This strip was formally relinquished in 1800, with the understanding that the United States would guarantee the titles already issued by that state. Virginia was also allowed a reservation, known as the Virginia Military District, which lay between the Little Miami and Scioto rivers, the same being for distribution among her Revolutionary veterans. There is one other fact which should be mentioned in connection with the territory north of the Ohio in the Revolutionary period. This was the memorable conquest of the territory by Gen. George Rogers Clark. During the years 1778 and 1779, this redoubtable leader captured Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Vincennes and thereby drove the English out of the Northwest Territory. It is probable that this notable campaign secured this territory for the Americans and that without it we would not have had it included in our possessions in the treaty which closed the Revolutionary War.

#### FIRST SURVEYS AND EARLY SETTLERS.

The next period in the history of the territory north of the Ohio begins with the passage of a congressional act (May 20, 1785), which provided for



the present system of land surveys into townships six miles square. As soon as this was put into operation, settlers—and most Revolutionary soldiers—began to pour into the newly surveyed territory. A second Ohio Company was organized in the spring of 1786, made up chiefly of Revolutionary officers and soldiers from New England, and this company proposed to establish a state somewhere between Lake Erie and the Ohio river. At this juncture Congress realized that definite steps should be made at once for some kind of government over this extensive territory, a territory which now includes the present states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and about a third of Minnesota. Various plans were proposed in Congress and most of the sessions of 1786 and the first half of 1787 were consumed in trying to formulate a suitable form of government for the extensive territory. The result of all these deliberations resulted in the famous Ordinance of 1787, which was finally passed on July 13, 1787.

#### ORDINANCE OF 1787.

There have been many volumes written about this instrument of government and to this day there is a difference of opinion as to who was its author. The present article can do no more than merely sketch its outline and set forth the main provisions. It was intended to provide only a temporary government and to serve until such a time as the population of the territory would warrant the creation of states with the same rights and privileges which the thirteen original states enjoyed. It stipulated that not less than three nor more than five states should ever be created out of the whole territory and the maximum number was finally organized, although it was not until 1848 that the last state, Wisconsin, was admitted to the Union. The third article, "Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged," has given these five states the basis for their excellent system of public schools, state normals, colleges and universities. Probably the most widely discussed article was the sixth, which provided that slavery and involuntary servitude should never be permitted within the territory and by the use of the word "forever" made the territory free for all time. It is interesting to note in this connection that both Indiana and Illinois before their admission to the Union sought to have this provision set aside, but every petition from the two states was refused by Congress in accordance with the provision of the Ordinance.

#### FIRST STAGE OF GOVERNMENT UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

The ordinance contemplated two grades of territorial government. During the operation of the first grade of government the governor, his secretary and the three judges provided by the ordinance were to be appointed

by Congress and the governor in turn was to appoint "such magistrates and other civil officers in each county and township as he shall deem necessary for the preservation of the peace and good will of the same." After the federal government was organized a statutory provision took the appointment of these officers out of the hands of Congress and placed it in the hand of the President of the United States. All executive authority was given to the governor, all judicial authority to the three judges, while the governor and judges, in joint session, constituted the legislative body. This means that during the first stage of territorial government the people had absolutely no voice in the affairs of government and this state of affairs lasted until 1799, a period of twelve years.

#### SECOND STAGE OF GOVERNMENT UNDER THE ORDINANCE.

The second stage of government in the territory was to begin whenever the governor was satisfied that there were at least five thousand free male inhabitants of the age of twenty-one and above. The main difference between the first and second stages of territorial government lay in the fact that the legislative functions were taken from the governor and judges and given to a "general assembly or legislature." The ordinance provided for the election of one representative for each five hundred free male inhabitants, the tenure of the office to be two years. While the members of the lower house were to be elected by the qualified voters of the territory, the upper house, to consist of five members, was to be appointed by Congress in a somewhat complicated manner. The house of representatives was to select ten men and these ten names were to be sent to Congress and out of this number five were to be selected by Congress. This provision, like the appointment of the governor, was later changed so as to make the upper house the appointees of the President of the United States. The five men so selected were called councilors and held office for five years.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

The first governor of the newly organized territory was Gen. Arthur St. Clair, a gallant soldier of the Revolution, who was appointed on October 5, 1787, and ordered to report for duty on the first of the following February. He held the office until November 22, 1802, when he was dismissed by President Jefferson "for the disorganizing spirit, and tendency of every example, violating the rules of conduct enjoined by his public station, as displayed in his address to the convention." The governor's duties were performed by his secretary, Charles W. Byrd, until March 1, 1803, when the state officials took their office. The first judges appointed were Samuel Holden Parsons, James Mitchell Varnum and John Armstrong. Before the

time came for the judges to qualify, Armstrong resigned and John Cleves Symmes was appointed in his place. The first secretary was Winthrop Sargent, who held the position until he was appointed governor of Mississippi Territory by the President on May 2, 1798. Sargent was succeeded by William Henry Harrison, who was appointed by the President on June 26, 1798, and confirmed by the Senate two days later. Harrison was later elected as the first delegate of the organized Northwest Territory to Congress and the President then appointed Charles Willing Byrd as secretary of the Territory, Byrd's appointment being confirmed by the Senate on December 31, 1799.

#### REPRESENTATIVE STAGE OF GOVERNMENT (1799-1803).

The Northwest Territory remained under the government of the first stage until September 16, 1799, when it formally advanced to the second or representative stage. In the summer of 1798 Governor St. Clair had ascertained that the territory had a population of at least five thousand free male inhabitants, and in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance of 1787, was ready to make the change in its form of government. On October 29, 1798, the governor issued a proclamation to the qualified voters of the territory directing them to choose members for the lower house of the Territorial Legislature at an election to be held on the third Monday of the following December. The twenty-two members so elected met on January 16, 1799, and, pursuant to the provisions of the ordinance, selected the ten men from whom the President of the United States later chose five for the Legislative Council. They then adjourned to meet on September 16, 1799, but since there was not a quorum on that day they held adjourned sessions until the 23rd, at which time a quorum was present.

At the time the change in the form of government went into effect there were only nine counties in the whole territory. These counties had been organized either by the governor or his secretary. The following table gives the nine counties organized before 1799, with the dates of their organization and the number of legislators apportioned to each by the governor:

County.	Date of organization.	Number of representatives.
Washington -----	July 27, 1788-----	2
Hamilton -----	January 4, 1790-----	7
St. Clair -----	April 27, 1790-----	1
Knox -----	June 20, 1790-----	1
Randolph -----	October 5, 1795-----	1
Wayne -----	August 6, 1796-----	3
Adams -----	July 10, 1797-----	2

Jefferson -----	July 29, 1797-----	1
Ross -----	August 20, 1798-----	4

FIRST TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE OF NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

The twenty-two representatives and five councilors were the first representative body to meet in the Northwest Territory and they represented a constituency scattered over a territory of more than two hundred and sixty-five thousand square miles, an area greater than Germany or France, or even Austria-Hungary. It would be interesting to tell something of the deliberations of these twenty-seven sterling pioneers, but the limits of the present article forbid. It is necessary, however, to make mention of one important thing which they did in view of the fact that it throws much light on the subsequent history of the Northwest Territory.

DIVISION OF 1800.

The Legislature was authorized to elect a delegate to Congress and two candidates for the honor presented their names to the Legislature, William Henry Harrison and Arthur St. Clair, Jr., the son of the governor. The Legislature, by a joint ballot on October 3, 1799, elected Harrison by a vote of eleven to ten. The defeat of his son undoubtedly had considerable to do with the subsequent estrangement which arose between the governor and his Legislature and incidentally hastened the division of the Northwest Territory. Within two years from the time the territory had advanced to the second stage of government the division had taken place. On May 7, 1800, Congress passed an act dividing the Northwest Territory by a line drawn from the mouth of the Kentucky river to Fort Recovery, in Mercer county, Ohio, and thence due north to the boundary line between the United States and Canada. Governor St. Clair favored the division because he thought it would delay the organization of a state and thus give him a longer lease on his position, but he did not favor the division as finally determined. He was constantly growing in disfavor with the people on account of his overbearing manner and he felt that he would get rid of some of his bitterest enemies if the western inhabitants were set off into a new territory. However, the most of the credit for the division must be given to Harrison, who, as a delegate to Congress, was in a position to have the most influence. Harrison also was satisfied that in case a new territory should be formed he would be appointed its first governor and he was not disappointed. The territory west of the line above mentioned was immediately organized and designated as Indiana Territory, while the eastern portion retained the existing government and the old name—Northwest Territory. It is frequently overlooked that the Northwest Territory existed in fact and in name up until March 1, 1803.

CENSUS OF NORTHWEST TERRITORY IN 1800.

The division of 1800 left the Northwest Territory with only about one-third of its original area. The census of the territory taken by the United States government in 1800 showed it to have a total population of forty-five thousand three hundred and sixty-five, which fell short by about fifteen thousand of being sufficient for the creation of a state as provided by the Ordinance of 1787, which fixed the minimum population at sixty thousand. The counties left in the Northwest Territory, with their respective population, are set forth in the appended table, all of which were within the present state of Ohio, except Wayne:

Adams -----	3,432
Hamilton -----	14,632
Jefferson -----	8,766
Ross -----	8,540
Trumbull -----	1,302
Washington -----	5,427
Wayne -----	3,206
<hr/>	
Total -----	45,365

The population as classified by the census with respect to age and sex is interesting and particularly so in showing that considerably more than one-third of the total population were children under ten years of age.

	Males.	Females.
Whites up to ten years of age-----	9,362	8,644
Whites from ten to sixteen-----	3,647	3,353
Whites from sixteen to twenty-six----	4,636	3,861
Whites from twenty-six to forty-five--	4,833	3,342
Whites forty-five and upward-----	1,955	1,395
<hr/>		<hr/>
Total -----	24,433	20,595
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Total of both sexes-----		45,028
Total of other persons, not Indians---		337
<hr/>		<hr/>
Grand Total -----		45,365

A digression is necessary at this point in order to trace the growth of settlement of the territory now within the present state of Ohio up to 1803, when it was admitted to the Union as a state. Marietta, founded in July, 1788, by the Ohio Company, is the oldest permanent settlement in the state.

A number of New Jersey settlers were organized by John Cleves Symmes, and Symmes succeeded in securing a grant of land from Congress (1788-1792) containing two hundred forty-eight thousand five hundred and forty acres, located between the Great Miami and Little Miami rivers. This grant of land is known in Ohio history as the Symmes purchase and contained the settlements of Columbia (1788) and Cincinnati (1789), although the latter place was first christened Losantiville. The man who devised this name exercised no small amount of ingenuity in its manufacture. The proposed settlement happened to be located at the mouth of the Licking river and this circumstance, with a little knowledge of Latin and a vivid imagination, was responsible for this hybrid word. The Latin word for town is "villa," which is Anglicized into "ville;" the Latin for opposite is "anti" and for mouth "os." These three Latin words account for the completed word, with the exception of the "L," and this letter is the initial letter of Licking. To make the word clear it must be read backward, syllable at a time—thus L-os-anti-ville, which being interpreted means the town opposite the mouth of the Licking.

The Virginia Military District, to which reference has been made, was settled largely by people from that state. The Connecticut Reserve, along Lake Erie, attracted many settlers from that state, among whom should be mentioned Moses Cleaveland, who, in 1796, founded the city which bears his name. The northern part of the state did not begin to fill up rapidly until after 1832, when the Ohio-Erie canal was opened for traffic. There have been estimates running from fifteen to twenty thousand as to the number of people who floated down the Ohio river within a year after the Ordinance of 1787 went into effect.

#### COUNTY ORGANIZATION (1788-1810).

It has already been stated that there were nine counties within the Northwest Territory in 1799, when it advanced to the second stage of territorial government. According to the provisions of the ordinance, the creation of new counties was in the hands of the governor, although after the federal constitution went into effect the secretary was also given the same power. Knox and Wayne counties were started by Secretary Winthrop Sargent according to this provision. The state of Ohio is now divided into eighty-eight counties, ten of which were created before the state was admitted to the Union on March 1, 1803. The counties organized by Governor St. Clair, or his secretary, from 1788, when Washington county was organized, up to 1803, when the state was admitted to the Union, are ten in number: Washington, Hamilton, Wayne, Adams, Jefferson, Ross, Trumbull, Clermont, Fairfield and Belmont. The dates of the creation of the first

six have already been given. Trumbull county was organized on July 10, 1800; Clermont and Fairfield, December 9, 1800; Belmont, September 7, 1801. Between the years 1803 and 1810, when Fayette county was organized, there were no less than twenty-four counties organized within the state of Ohio. The first session of the General Assembly of the state organized eight counties as follows: Franklin, Gallia, Greene, Scioto, Warren, Butler, Montgomery and Columbiana. Muskingum started its independent existence on the first day of March, 1804. In 1805 there were four counties created, Champaign, Athens, Geauga and Highland. The session of 1807 added four more to the rapidly growing state, Miami, Ashtabula, Cuyahoga and Portage. The following year saw six new counties opened for entry, Delaware, Stark, Tuscarawas, Preble, Knox and Licking. One county, Huron, was created in 1809. The five counties organized in 1810 included Fayette, Pickaway, Guernsey, Clinton and Madison. This makes a total of thirty-nine counties up to and including the year 1810. In this year Cincinnati, the largest city of the state, boasted of a population of two thousand three hundred and twenty.

#### INDIAN WARS (1787-1803).

The period from 1787 to 1803 in the Northwest Territory was marked by several bitter conflicts with the Indians. Just as at the close of the French and Indian War had the French stirred up the Indians against the Americans, so at the close of the Revolutionary War did the English do the same thing. This inciting of the Indians by the British was one of the causes of the War of 1812, a struggle which has very appropriately been called the second War for Independence. The various uprisings of the Indians up to 1794 retarded the influx of settlers and was a constant menace to those who did venture into the territory. Three distinct campaigns were waged against the Indians during this period before they were finally subdued. The first campaign was under the command of Gen. Josiah Harmar, 1790, and resulted in a decisive defeat for the whites. The second expedition was under the leadership of Gen. Arthur St. Clair, the governor of the Territory, and was marked by one of the worst defeats ever suffered by an American army at the hands of the Indians. A lack of knowledge of Indian methods of warfare, combined with reckless mismanagement, sufficiently accounts for both disasters. It remained for Gen. Anthony Wayne, the "Mad Anthony" of Revolutionary fame, to bring the Indians to terms. The battle which closed his campaign against the Indians is known as the battle of Fallen Timbers and was fought on August 20, 1794. The scene of the battle lies along the Maumee river within the limits of the present county of Defiance. This crushing defeat of the Indians, a rout in which they had lost twelve out of thirteen chiefs, was so complete that the Indians were glad to sue for

peace. On June 10, 1795, delegates from the various Indian tribes, headed by their chiefs, met at Greenville, Ohio, to formulate a treaty. The United States government appointed General Wayne as commissioner plenipotentiary to draft the treaty and, after nearly two months of bickering, a treaty was drawn up on August 3, 1795. It was signed by General Wayne on behalf of the United States and by ninety chiefs and the delegates of twelve interested tribes. The treaty was faithfully kept by the Indians and ever afterwards Little Turtle, the real leader of the Indians, was a true friend of the whites. It may be said that this battle of Fallen Timbers was the most important battle fought in America between the close of the War for Independence and the battle of Tippecanoe in the fall of 1811. To General Anthony Wayne will remain the honor of opening the way for permanent settlement of the Northwest Territory.

#### THE FORMATION OF A NEW STATE.

The three years intervening between the creation of Indiana Territory (May 7, 1800) and the admission of Ohio to the Union (March 1, 1803), are marked by an acrimonious struggle during which Governor St. Clair was constantly growing in disfavor with his Legislature and the great mass of the people of the territory. The Legislature wanted a state formed as soon as possible and succeeded in getting Congress to pass an act, April 30, 1802, authorizing the calling of a constitutional convention. This act established the limits of the proposed new state as follows: "That part of the Northwest Territory bounded east by Pennsylvania, south by the Ohio river, west by a line drawn from the mouth of the Big Miami river due north to an east and west line passing through the south extremity of Lake Michigan, and by this line and the Canada line through Lake Erie to the west line of Pennsylvania." Since these boundaries omitted the eastern half of the present state of Michigan which had been left a part of the Northwest Territory by the division of May 7, 1800, it was denounced as a fraud by the Federalists in the omitted territory. However, it is very plain that Congress carried out the intent of the Ordinance of 1787 by their act and the charge of political trickery fails of substantiation in the light of the specific provisions therein set forth regarding the creation of states out of the Northwest Territory. The enabling act provided for an election of delegates to the constitutional convention to be held in September of the same year (1802), the delegates to meet at Chillicothe on the first Monday of the following November. The thirty-five delegates met at the appointed time and by a vote of thirty-four to one, the negative vote being cast by Ephraim Cutler, decided to proceed at once to the organization of a state government and the formation of a constitution. The convention was in session until



November 29th, at which time it had completed the first constitution for the state and the one which lasted until 1851, when a second constitution was adopted.

#### WHEN WAS OHIO ADMITTED TO THE UNION?

It is interesting to note the difficulty which Ohio historians have had in trying to fix upon the date which marks the formal admission of the state to the Union.

The natal day of Ohio has given rise to more dispute than the natal day of any other state in the Union. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that Congress never passed an act formally admitting it to the Union. There have been no less than five dates assigned by as many different authorities and each group of historians substantiate their claim by the citation of facts. These five dates are as follows: April 30, 1802; November 29, 1802; February 19, 1803; March 1, 1803; March 3, 1803.

The first date (April 30, 1802) has for its chief sponsor the editor of the "United States Statutes at Large." This date is not tenable at all, since the territorial judges were in office for several months after this date and were, by the congressional act of February 21, 1806, paid their full salaries up to March 1, 1803. The second date (November 29, 1802) is advanced by Hickey in his volume, "The Constitution," on the ground that the constitution was adopted on that day. The third date (February 19, 1803) has been held by several good authorities, notably, Caleb Atwater, in his "Political Manual;" G. W. Pascal, in his "Annotated Constitution," and the late president of Marietta College, I. W. Andrews. It was upon this date that Congress passed an act to "provide for the due execution of the laws of the United States within the state of Ohio." This would seem to indicate that Congress recognized February 19, 1803, as the date of the admission of Ohio to the Union, but when it is recalled that Congress had not yet appointed the necessary judicial officers it must be concluded that this is not the proper date. The fourth date (March 1, 1803) is now recognized officially as the actual day on which Ohio formally entered the Union, although it was an act of Congress passed nearly three years later which definitely settled this fact. The question arose in 1806 in Congress regarding the payment of the territorial officers and the act of February 21st of that year ordered that the governor and judges be paid for their services up to March 1, 1803. There can be no question but that Congress placed its official approval on this date as being the first day of Ohio's existence as a separate state. The fifth and last date (March 3, 1803) was advanced as the real date of the admission of the state, for the reason that on this date Congress gave its approval to certain changes in the constitution of the state which had been adopted on November 29, 1802. These changes related to the disposition of

certain school lands within the state and were of minor importance and in no sense advocated any radical changes in the constitution of the state. However, on March 3, 1803, the state had been in full operation for a space of three days and exercising all the rights and privileges of a state; the governor had been installed; the Legislature was in session and the various state officials were discharging their duties in accordance with the constitution. Thus it must be concluded from all available evidence that Ohio was admitted to the Union on March 1, 1803.

#### CAPITALS OF NORTHWEST TERRITORY AND OHIO.

The capital of the Northwest Territory was located within the present limits of Ohio during the whole existence of the Territory both before and after the division of the Territory in 1800. When the Ordinance of 1787 was formally put into operation, on July 17, 1788, the capital was established at Marietta, the name being chosen by the directors of the Ohio Company on July 2, 1788. The name of Marietta was selected in honor of the French Queen Marie Antoinette, compounded by a curious combination of the first and last syllables of her name.

The capital remained at Marietta until 1800, when it was moved by the congressional act of May 7th of that year to Chillicothe and by the constitution adopted in 1802 the capital was to remain there at least until 1808. The Legislature of 1809 moved the capital to Zanesville until such time as a permanent site should be selected. The Legislature at the same time that it moved the capital to Zanesville appointed commissioners to report at the following sessions "the most eligible and central spot for permanently establishing it." The approaching War of 1812 made it necessary to take the capital back to Chillicothe, where there was less danger from attack by the Indians and British. The commissioners appointed by the Legislature of 1809 selected a small village by the name of Dublin, on the Scioto, about fourteen miles north of Columbus, but the Legislature refused to abide by their choice.

The capital was permanently located at Columbus by the legislative act of February 14, 1812, although no less than nine different sites were under consideration before the final decision was made. The act selecting the site did not choose a name for the proposed city and this honor belongs to Joseph Foos, the senator from Franklin county, who had been largely instrumental in the selection of the Legislature. At that time there was a solitary log cabin on the site and the whole tract was covered with a dense forest. The act of February 17, 1816, formally designated Columbus as the capital "from and after the second Tuesday of October, 1816." During the War of 1812, and until the buildings were ready at Columbus, the capital remained at Chillicothe.

## CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF OHIO.

The state of Ohio has had four constitutional conventions: 1802, 1850-51, 1873-74 and 1912. The constitution of 1802, it is interesting to note, was never submitted to the people for ratification. Between the adoption of the first and second constitutions there was an effort to hold a constitutional convention. A resolution, passed December 25, 1818, authorized a vote on the question of holding a constitutional convention, but at the election which was subsequently held it was decided adversely by a vote of 29,315 to 6,987.

The main facts concerning the second constitutional convention may be briefly summed up as follows: The Legislature on October 9, 1849, authorized a vote on the question of holding a convention and the voters of the state cast a majority of 94,531 in favor of the constitutional convention. The vote stood 145,698 for and 51,167 against the convention. On April 1, 1850, the one hundred and eight delegates were elected and on the 6th of the following May they met at Columbus. The convention was in continuous session until July 9, 1850, and then, not having yet completed their deliberations, adjourned to meet again on December 2, 1850. The second session continued to hold daily meetings until March 10, 1851, when it finally concluded its labors after having spent a total of one hundred and sixty-three days. The constitution was submitted to the people of the state on June 17, 1851, and adopted by a vote of 125,564 to 109,276.

An attempt to adopt a new constitution was made in 1874, but failed. On March 30, 1871, the Legislature provided for a vote on the question of holding a constitutional convention and at an election held October 10, 1871, it was decided, by a vote of 267,618 to 104,231, to hold such a convention. On April 6, 1873, the one hundred and five delegates to the convention were elected and on the 13th of the following month they met and organized. The convention continued in session from that date until August 8th, and, after a recess, met on December 2d and remained in continuous session until May 15th of the following year. The convention held daily sessions for one hundred and eighty days, one of the longest constitutional conventions ever held in the United States. With all this deliberation it would seem that a satisfactory constitution could have been framed, but the voters of the state, on August 18, 1874, rejected it by a vote of 250,169 to 102,885. This expensive attempt to make a new constitution was sufficient to thwart all efforts along this line for several years. However, the changes in economic, social and industrial conditions became more pronounced year by year, and on May 9, 1909, the Legislature submitted the question of holding a constitutional convention. At an election held on November 8, 1910, it was decided, by a vote of 693,263 to 67,718, to select delegates to a constitutional con-

vention. The convention met on the second Tuesday of January, 1912, and remained in session until June 8, 1912, when it finally concluded its labors. This convention submitted forty-two changes in the existing constitution and on September 3d of the same year the qualified voters of the state accepted all but eight of the proposed amendments. The eight amendments lost were as follows: Suffrage, good roads, advertising, injunctions, capital punishment, voting machines, eligibility of women and elimination of word "white" from the constitution. The amendments which carried by various majorities concerned the following subjects: Jury system, depositions, suits, wrongful death, initiative and referendum, investigations, limiting veto, mechanics' lien, welfare, compensations, conservation of natural resources, eight-hour day, removal of officials, expert testimony, land titles, prison contracts, extra sessions, reform of the judiciary, county judges, justices, school boards, school commissioners, insurance, abolishing of board of public works, taxation, corporations, double liability, state printing, civil service, submission of amendments, home rule for cities, schedule and license. The fight was the most bitter on woman's suffrage and the initiative and referendum. The vote on the first proposition was 249,420 to 336,875, and was defeated largely on account of the activity of the liquor interests. The initiative and referendum carried by a vote of 312,592 to 231,312, despite the fact that every ruse and trick known to professional politicians was used to compass its defeat.

On November 3, 1914, there were four constitutional amendments submitted to the voters of the state and the two which caused the most discussion, viz., woman's suffrage and prohibition, were defeated. The other two amendments related to home rule for cities and the regulation of the liquor traffic. The vote on prohibition in the fall, 1917, election resulted in a majority of only about 1,200 in favor of the retention of the saloon.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

The state of Ohio has had its citizens in four wars in which the United States has engaged since 1803: the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War and the Spanish-American War. It is very unfortunate that the public records of Ohio contain no list of the soldiers of the state who fought in the War of 1812, although large numbers of the citizens served in the field under various commanders. The records as regarding the Mexican War are fairly complete and show that a total of 5,536 men were sent to the front by the state. When the call was first issued for troops, Ohio was called upon to furnish three thousand men and within a short time forty companies reported at Camp Washington, near Cincinnati. Thirty companies were formed into three regiments, commanded by Cols. Alexander M. Mitchell,

George W. Morgan and Samuel R. Curtis. These troops were sent down the Ohio in July, 1846, and joined General Taylor on the Rio Grande. In 1847 additional troops were sent from Ohio, but none of them saw any active service. The regiment under the command of Mitchell was the only one to take part in a battle, and it distinguished itself in the storming of Monterey. The state of Ohio suffered a severe loss in the death of Brig.-Gen. Thomas L. Hammer, one of the most prominent men of the state at that time. He was a member of Congress at the time of the opening of the war, but left Congress, enlisted as a private and soon after received a commission as brigadier-general. He was in the operations around Monterey and shortly afterward was stricken with a fatal disease and died on December 30, 1846.

The part which Ohio played in the Civil War can be only briefly noticed in this resume of the history of the state. That Ohio did her full duty as a loyal member of the Union is a fact which is known to everyone. Within twenty-four hours from the time the President issued his first call for troops on April 16, 1860, the Legislature had passed a bill appropriating one million dollars for military purposes. Two days later (April 19th) two regiments of Ohio troops left by rail for Washington. The ease and quickness with which this was accomplished is an indication of the intense loyalty of the state. It is a glowing tribute to the state of Ohio that although there were only thirteen regiments assigned to the state under the first call, enough men presented themselves to make more than seventy regiments. This outburst of loyalty was such that the Legislature authorized the governor to accept ten more regiments, and the state itself equipped and paid these additional men and enrolled them for the defense of the state. By October 1, 1862, the state had enrolled militia to the number of 425,147 and the state sent out for duty outside of its own limits 319,659 men, although their quota was only 306,322. This gives the state the honor of furnishing more than one-tenth of the total enlistment of men in the Northern army. In number of troops furnished, Ohio was third among all the states and in losses was second. The soldiers were a part of every army, participated in every campaign, fought in every important battle from Bull Run to Bentonville, from Sabine Cross Roads to Gettysburg. No less than forty-three Ohio regiments of infantry were present at the sanguinary engagement at Missionary Ridge and they were in like proportion at the other battles. Twelve thousand brave Ohio men were killed or mortally wounded and at least forty thousand received wounds of some kind. Thirteen thousand died of disease in the service and twenty thousand were discharged for disability arising from wounds or disease. These figures give some idea of the prominent part which the soldiers of Ohio played in the great struggle.

It is pertinent to say something of the activity of the anti-war party in the state during the time the struggle was going on. In the summer of 1863 the Democrats of the state nominated Vallandigham for governor, a man who was very outspoken in his denunciation of the war, but John Brough, a staunch Union man, had no difficulty in defeating him for the governorship. The part which Vallandigham subsequently played in the history of his state is sufficient proof that it was for the best interests of the state that he was defeated.

The Spanish-American War of 1898 has been the last one in which troops from Ohio have taken any part. Following the call of President McKinley for seventy-five thousand volunteers, Ohio had no difficulty in filling their quota. This war opened officially on April 25th and formally came to an end by the signing of a protocol on August 12th. The battles of Manila Bay, Santiago, El Caney and San Juan Hill were the only engagements of importance. According to the treaty of Paris, which was signed December 12, 1898, Spain relinquished her sovereignty over Cuba, ceded to the United States Porto Rico and her other West India possessions and the Island of Guam, and transferred her rights in the Philippines for a sum of twenty million dollars paid to her for public works and improvements which belonged to the Spanish government.

#### THE LAND GRANTS OF OHIO.

Ohio was the first state organized out of the territory north of the Ohio river and east of the Mississippi river and was divided into several grants, reservations and military districts of one kind and another. These various divisions have led to an endless amount of confusion in the surveying of lands in the state and in many cases in expensive litigation. A brief summary of each one of these divisions is here presented.

#### THE OHIO LAND COMPANY PURCHASE.

This company was organized March 3, 1786, at Boston and on October 27, 1787, bought from the government 1,500,000 acres and received, outside of the portions reserved by Congress, 1,064,285 acres. Congress set aside the sixteenth section of each township for school purposes, the twenty-ninth section for religious purposes and the eighth, eleventh and twenty-sixth for such purposes as Congress might determine in the future. This tract included what was known as the "Donation Tract" of 100,000 acres, the same now being the northern part of Washington county. For this immense tract the Ohio Company paid the government sixty-six and two-thirds cents an acre.

## THE FRENCH GRANT.

The secretary of the United Board of Treasury, William Duer, was instrumental in helping the Ohio Company to secure from Congress the option on 3,000,000 acres lying west and north of the original purchase of this company. The title to this tract remained in the government and out of this peculiar arrangement arose the Scioto Company, which was organized in France. Hundreds of deluded Frenchmen invested their money in this tract and received cloudy titles which caused no little trouble in later years. A large number of these French settlers landed on the banks of the Ohio on October 20, 1790, on the site of the present city of Gallipolis, which they founded and named. The Scioto Company was incompetently managed, became insolvent and the land on which the unfortunate Frenchmen had settled reverted to the United States government. While the most of them remained there were many of them who went on farther west and located where other French settlers had previously established themselves. The United States treated the remaining French settlers in a very generous manner and by the act of March 3, 1795, granted them 24,000 acres on the Ohio river within the present limits of Scioto county.

## THE SYMMES PURCHASE.

In 1788 John Cleves Symmes and other men of New Jersey organized the Miami Company and bought from the United States 1,000,000 acres, for which the company agreed to pay sixty-six and two-thirds cents an acre. As in the case of the purchase of the Ohio Company, the government made reservations of school and church sections, as well as three additional sections for general purposes. The Miami Company later found out that they had contracted for more than they could pay and the records show that they received and paid for only 311,682 acres in the southern part of the tract. It is interesting to note that the present site of Cincinnati was sold by the company to one Matthias Denman for the sum of five hundred dollars. The city of Cincinnati was founded the following year and the monument in that city on Third street, between Broadway and Ludlow streets, marks the location of Fort Washington, which was erected to protect the infant city from the Indians.

## CONNECTICUT RESERVE.

In the year 1786 the state of Connecticut relinquished all her claims to lands in the Northwest Territory with the exception of a strip of 3,500,000 acres bordering Lake Erie. This immense tract became an integral part of Ohio as the result of two separate acts on the part of Connecticut. The

state granted 500,000 acres in the western part of the reserve in 1792 to those citizens of Connecticut whose homes had been burned by the British during the Revolutionary War. The towns of Norwalk, Greenwich, Fairfield, New Haven and New London furnished the greater part of the eighteen hundred who took advantage of the generous offer of their state. The land was surveyed into townships of five miles square and divided among the settlers in proportion to their losses. In 1795 the Connecticut Land Company purchased the rest of the reserve, amounting to 3,000,000 acres, and on April 28, 1800, the United States government passed an act which paved the way for the final absorption of the tract by the state of Ohio. In May, 1800, the Connecticut Legislature accepted the offer of the United States and formally renounced all claims to the territory in favor of the state of Ohio.

#### THE VIRGINIA MILITARY DISTRICT.

This reservation was retained by Virginia when the state relinquished her claim to Congress in 1784, being retained by the state for the use of the Revolutionary soldiers who had enlisted from Virginia. It comprised the territory between the Little Miami and Scioto rivers, but was not to be used unless the lands claimed by Virginia south of the Ohio river proved insufficient to pay all of the bounties promised by Virginia to her soldiers. By the year 1790 it was seen that Virginia would not have enough territory south of the Ohio to satisfy all of her needs and accordingly, in August of that year, Congress passed an act allowing the state to use the optional territory north of the Ohio river. Owing to the fact that the territory was not surveyed according to any definite plan, the various allotments assigned to the Virginia soldiers frequently overlapped and in many instances confusion and litigation resulted.

#### THE UNITED STATES MILITARY LANDS.

The Continental Congress during the Revolutionary War offered bounties of Western lands in order to increase enlistments, and soldiers so secured were given land warrants which they later presented to Congress and exchanged for land. On June 1, 1796, Congress passed an act which called upon the surveyor-general of the United States to locate a tract in the Northwest Territory for the purpose of enabling the government to have land to take up the land warrants which it had issued during the late war. The limits of this particular tract began "at the northwest corner of the Seven Ranges, thence south fifty miles, thence west to the Scioto river and along that river to the Greenville treaty line, thence along that line and east to the place of beginning." These lands were surveyed into townships five miles square and each owner received a patent for his land signed by the President of the United States.



## THE REFUGEE TRACT.

This tract was set aside by the Continental Congress in April, 1783, for the benefit of such people as left Canada and Nova Scotia to help the American colonies in their fight against England during the Revolution. The subsequent congressional act of 1798 confirmed the act of the Continental Congress and on February 18, 1801, Congress definitely selected "those fractional townships of the sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-first and twenty-second ranges of townships joining the southern boundary line of the military lands." This tract of four and a half miles in width, and extending forty-two miles east of the Scioto river, contained more than twice as much as was needed to satisfy the claims of the refugees. The part unclaimed by those for whom it was set aside was attached to the Chillicothe land district and sold as Congress lands. It so happened that the future capital of the state, Columbus, is in the extreme western side of this tract.

## CONGRESS LANDS.

Some of the tracts of land already described were Congress lands, viz., the French Grant, the Seven Ranges and the Refugee Tract. Congress retained and sold all lands not specifically relinquished to land companies and established land offices for the purpose at different times at Marietta, Cincinnati, Steubenville, Chillicothe, Zanesville, Canton, Wooster, Piqua, Delaware, Wapakoneta, Lima and Upper Sandusky.

## THE MAUMEE ROAD LANDS.

The congressional grant to the Ohio Company in 1787 reserved ten thousand acres in what is now Tuscarawas county for the use of the Moravians and Christian Indians who had previously settled there, the title being vested in the Moravian Brethren at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. A few years later two thousand acres were added to the original grant and in 1823 the territory reverted to the United States, with the exception of the cemeteries, church yards and a few special leases.

## DOHRMAN'S GRANT.

Congress granted all of township 13, range 7, in Tuscarawas county to one Henry Dohrman, a Portuguese citizen, who rendered valuable services to the colonies during the Revolutionary War.

## THE MAUMEE ROAD LANDS

In 1823 Congress granted to the state of Ohio about sixty thousand acres for the purpose of constructing a road from the lower rapids of the Maumee river to the western limits of the Western Reserve of Connecticut.

## THE TURNPIKE LANDS.

In 1827 Congress granted to the state of Ohio forty-nine sections of land in Seneca, Crawford and Marion counties, for the construction of a road from Columbus to Sandusky.

## CANAL GRANTS.

Between 1825 and 1845 Congress at different times made special grants of land to the state of Ohio for canal purposes, and a total of about one million acres were thus secured by the state. By the year 1842 the state had completed six hundred and fifty-eight miles of canals, at the staggering cost to the state of \$14,688,666.97, although before they were all completed the railroads were in operation in the state.

## SALT SECTIONS.

In the early history of the Northwest Territory salt was a commodity hard to secure and necessarily high in price. Congress reserved every place where it was thought salt could be obtained and in this way helped the settlers to get salt at least expense. In Ohio an entire township within the present county of Jackson was reserved, as well as about four thousand acres in Delaware county. In 1824 Congress relinquished its claim in favor of Ohio.

## THE ZANE SECTIONS.

Ebenezer Zane, one of the most prominent of the men in the early history of the state, was granted three sections by Congress in 1796 in return for his services in opening a road from Wheeling to Maysville. These three sections were located at Zanesville, Chillicothe and Lancaster. Isaac Zane was granted three sections in Champaign county by Congress for valuable service to the colonies during the Revolution. Isaac Zane had been captured by the Indians when a small boy and spent the major portion of his life with them, and his influence with the Indians was such that he proved to be of great assistance to the colonies in handling them.

## THE MINISTERIAL LANDS.

These lands have been previously mentioned and were reserved only in two grants, those of the Ohio Land Company and the Symmes Purchase. The grants to both set aside section twenty-nine of each township for religious purposes.

## SCHOOL SECTIONS.

Provisions for public schools were made in all states created by the United States after the adoption of the constitution. The Ordinance of

1787 had made specific mention of the value of schools and a wise Congress set aside section sixteen of every township, which was surveyed into townships six miles square. The United States military lands were surveyed into townships, five miles square, but Congress reserved one thirty-sixth of the whole area for school purposes. There are no reservations in the Connecticut Reserve and Virginia Military District for school purposes, but Congress made up for this by setting aside an amount equivalent to one thirty-sixth of the area in each tract from other lands belonging to the United States. As a matter of fact, one thirty-sixth of the whole state was reserved for school purposes as well as three townships for universities.

OHIO POLITICS.

The politics of Ohio presents many interesting features, but this brief summary can do little more than indicate the more important landmarks in the political history of the state. The first governor of the Northwest Territory, Arthur St. Clair, was an ardent Federalist and undoubtedly his pronounced political views had something to do with his removal from the office on November 22, 1802. From that time until 1836 the Democratic party, or the Republican or Democratic-Republican, as it was at first called, controlled the state, and it was not until William Henry Harrison, a "favorite son," became a candidate for the presidency, that the Whigs were able to break the strength of the Democratic party of the state. In 1836, 1840 and 1844 the Whigs carried the state for the President. The panic of 1837, the popularity of Harrison and the Texas question were largely determining factors in the success of the Whigs. The Democrats regained sufficient power in 1848 to carry the state again, and repeated their victory in 1852. In 1856 John C. Fremont carried the state for the newly organized Republican party and since that year there was only one Democratic electoral vote in the state of Ohio up to 1912. In 1892 Grover Cleveland received one of Ohio's twenty-three electoral votes, but with this exception the state cast a solid Republican vote for President until 1912. In that year, and also in 1916, Wilson carried the state. Ohio has furnished five Presidents of the United States: William Henry Harrison, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, William McKinley and William H. Taft.

While the state has been registering Republican votes for the President, it has had eight Democratic governors and has frequently elected them by large majorities. A complete list of the governors of the state, with the years of their tenure and their politics, is given at this point for reference:

Governor.	Tenure.	Politics.
Edward Tiffin -----	1803-07 -----	Democratic-Rep.
Thomas Kirker (acting) -----	1807-09 -----	Democratic-Rep.

Governor.	Tenure.	Politics.
Samuel Huntington	1809-11	Democratic-Rep.
Return Jonathan Meigs	1811-14	Democratic-Rep.
Othniel Looker (acting)	1814-15	Democratic-Rep.
Thomas Worthington	1815-19	Democratic-Rep.
Ethan Allen Brown	1819-22	Democratic-Rep.
Allen Trimble (acting)	1822-23	Democratic-Rep.
Jeremiah Morrow	1823-27	Democrat
Allen Trimble	1827-31	Democrat
Duncan McArthur	1831-33	National Republican
Robert Lucas	1833-37	Democrat
Joseph Vance	1837-39	Whig
Wilson Shannon	1839-41	Democrat
Thomas Corwin	1841-43	Whig
Wilson Shannon	1843-44	Democrat
Thomas W. Bartley (acting)	1844-45	Democrat
Mordecai Bartley	1845-47	Whig
William Bebb	1847-49	Whig
Seabury Ford	1849-51	Whig
Reuben Wood	1851-53	Democrat
William Medill (acting, 1853)	1853-56	Democrat
Salmon P. Chase	1856-60	Republican
William Dennison, Jr.	1860-62	Republican
David Tod	1862-64	Republican
John Brough	1864-65	Republican
Charles Anderson (acting)	1865-66	Republican
Jacob D. Cox	1866-68	Republican
Rutherford B. Hayes	1868-72	Republican
Edward F. Noyes	1872-74	Republican
William Allen	1874-76	Democrat
Rutherford B. Hayes	1876-77	Republican
Thomas L. Young	1877-78	Republican
Richard M. Bishop	1878-80	Democrat
Charles Foster	1880-84	Republican
George Hoadley	1884-86	Democrat
Joseph Benson Foraker	1886-90	Republican
James E. Campbell	1890-92	Democrat
William McKinley	1892-96	Republican
Asa S. Bushnell	1896-00	Republican
George K. Nash	1900-04	Republican
Myron T. Herrick	1904-06	Democrat

Governor.	Tenure.	Politics.
John M. Patterson (died in office)	1906	Democrat
Andrew Litner Harris	1906-09	Republican
Judson Harmon	1909-13	Democrat
James M. Cox	1913-15	Democrat
Frank B. Willis	1915-17	Republican
James M. Cox	1917	Democrat

The political history of Ohio can not be dismissed without reference to the amendments incorporated in the new constitution in 1912 which have made the constitution practically a new instrument of government. The general tendency of the thirty-three amendments is to make a freer expression of democracy through the medium of the initiative and referendum, direct primaries and home rule for cities. A workmen's compensation law was enacted which provides for compulsory contributions to an insurance fund by the employers of the state. Many changes were made in providing for improvements in social and industrial conditions. Ohio now has a constitution which is sufficiently flexible to allow changes to be made by amendment without the trouble of a constitutional convention.

#### BOUNDARY LINES.

The state boundaries of Ohio have been the cause for most animated discussions; not only in regard to state limits but county and township lines as well. In 1817, and again in 1834, a severe controversy arose over the boundary between Ohio and Michigan which was settled only after violent demonstrations and government interference.

In primitive times the geographical position, extent and surface diversities were but meagerly comprehended. In truth, it may be asserted that they could not have been more at variance with actual facts had they been laid out "haphazard." The Ordinance of 1787 represented Lake Michigan far north of its real position, and even as late as 1812 its size and location had not been definitely ascertained. During that year Amos Spafford addressed a clear, comprehensive letter to the governor of Ohio relative to the boundary lines between Michigan and Ohio. Several lines of survey were laid out as the first course, but either Michigan or Ohio expressed disapproval in every case. This dispute came to a climax in 1835 when the party beginning a "permanent" survey began at the northwest corner of the state and was attacked by a force of Michigan settlers who sent them away badly routed and beaten. No effort was made to return to the work until the state and various parties had weighed the subject, and finally the interposition of the government became necessary. A settlement resulted in the establishment of the present boundary line between the two states, Michigan being pacified with the grant of a large tract in the northern peninsula.

Ohio is situated between the  $38^{\circ} 25'$  and  $42^{\circ}$  north latitude, and  $80^{\circ} 30'$  and  $84^{\circ} 50'$  west longitude from Greenwich, or  $3^{\circ} 30'$  and  $7^{\circ} 50'$  west from Washington. From north to south it extends over two hundred and ten miles, and from east to west two hundred and twenty miles—comprising thirty-nine thousand nine hundred and sixty-four square miles.

The state is generally higher than the Ohio river. In the southern counties the surface is greatly diversified by the inequalities produced by the excavating power of the Ohio river and its tributaries. The greater portion of the state was originally covered with timber, although in the central and northwestern sections some prairies were found. The crest or watershed between the waters of Lake Erie and those of the Ohio is less elevated than in New York or Pennsylvania. Sailing upon the Ohio the country appears to be mountainous, bluffs rising to the height of two hundred and fifty to six hundred feet above the bed of the river. Ascending the tributaries of the Ohio, these precipitous hills gradually lessen until they are resolved into gentle undulations and toward the sources of these streams the land becomes low and level.

Although Ohio has no inland lakes of importance, it possesses a favorable river system which gives the state a convenient water transportation. The lake on the northern boundary, and the Ohio river on the south afford convenient outlets by water to important points. The means of communication and transportation are superior in every respect, and are constantly being increased by railroad and electric lines.

## CHAPTER II.

### TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF GREENE COUNTY.

Greene county is located in the southwestern portion of the state of Ohio and is bounded on the north by Clark, on the east by Madison and Fayette, on the south by Clinton and Warren, and on the west by Montgomery county.

The principal topographical or surface features of Greene county are the valleys of the Little Miami river and of Beaver creek. Cæsars creek also forms a depression of considerable importance in the southeastern townships. To these three valleys all the drainage of the county is directed, with the exception of that of Bath township in the northwest corner, which lies within the valley of Mad river.

Even though Beaver creek is a much smaller stream than the Little Miami, its valley is a much wider and deeper trough. However, the drainage effected by the former stream is insignificant when compared with that of the larger one. Beaver creek is a small, sluggish stream which is almost lost in its wide, fruitful valley, and no one can fail to recognize the disproportion which exists between the present stream and the valley which contains it. The truth is that this wide valley was never excavated by Beaver creek, for it is the deserted channel of an old river which must have had greater force and greater volume than the Little Miami today. Nor is there any doubt as to the general course and tributaries of the river that did this work, for the valley of Beaver creek connects on the north with the valley of Mad river. Whether the water of the head-springs of Beaver creek shall be delivered to the Little Miami or Mad river depends upon the digging of a ditch or the turning of a furrow. It is interesting to note that a protracted and expensive law suit was formerly decided in the courts of Greene county, where the only question at issue was as to which stream the head-springs of Beaver creek naturally belonged. It can, therefore, be asserted that the valley of Beaver creek is but an extension of the valley of Mad river, and was occupied by that stream at no very remote period. An examination of the geological map of Greene county, upon which the alluvial valleys of the county are also indicated, serves to bring out this point very distinctly. In Clark county an older valley of the great Miami river is shown to exist, connecting its present valley with that of Mad river; thus the confluence of these streams was effected below Springfield instead of at Dayton as at

present. It then seems probable that the valley of Beaver creek was formerly occupied by the waters of the Great Miami after it had been re-enforced by the whole volume of Mad river. With such an origin the present dimensions of the valley are easily understood.

#### FEATURES OF THE LITTLE MIAMI VALLEY.

The valley of the Little Miami in Greene county consists of two well-marked portions, the lower one of which has been cut out of the shales and limestones of the soft Cincinnati series, while the upper portion of the river has been obliged to erode its way through the massive courses of cliff limestone. The lower valley is therefore deep and capacious, while the upper one consists of a narrow gorge bounded by precipitous walls. The first of the above-named divisions constitutes one of the most valuable agricultural sections of the county, and the second, which has no such economic applications aside from water power, which has not been utilized to any great extent, furnishes the most picturesque and attractive scenery, not only of the county, but of all the surrounding region. There is but one point in all southwestern Ohio where more striking scenery is furnished than that of the gorge of the Little Miami between Grinnells Mills and Clifton. The limestone is cut to a depth of from sixty to eighty feet, and the valley never exceeds a few hundred feet in width. At Clifton the gorge is contracted to a score or two of feet and it is in some places four times as deep as it is wide. Several of the more prominent tributaries of the river have scenic features similar to the main stream. The valley of Massies creek below Cedarville is almost as picturesque and striking as that of the Little Miami at Clifton. Clarks run, near the southern line of Miami township, shows another of these deep gorges, and the beautiful glen at Yellow Springs, which has had precisely such an origin, is known to thousands of people.

There remains one other valley of less importance, that of Cæsars creek, which is a much shallower trough than those already described. Its upper branches occupy slight depressions in the drift beds which so deeply cover the eastern side of the county. At the western margin of the cliff limestone the creek is bedded in rock but it has not cut out a deep channel for itself.

#### PRESENCE OF CLIFF LIMESTONE.

By reference to the geological map it will be seen that the northern and eastern portions of the county are underlaid by cliff limestone, and from the western half, though originally present, this formation has been carried away by long continued erosion, leaving only isolated patches of it to attest its former extent. The occasional summits in the western part of the county, that are one thousand or more feet above sea level, are in all cases outlying



portions of cliff limestone. By the removal of the protecting layer of cliff limestone, the softer beds of the Cincinnati series have been uncovered, and the waste and wear in them has been much more rapid than in the higher rocks.

The deposits of the drift have been spread all over the county, reducing the ruggedness of the surface and hiding many ancient channels, but this did not, of course, change the underlying geological structure. Hence here, as in other counties, a geological map becomes to a great degree a topographical map. The areas of cliff limestone comprise those districts of the county which rise above one thousand feet above the sea, while all the other regions belong to the Cincinnati or softer stone areas.

#### ELEVATION.

The lowest land of the county is found on its southern boundary, in the valley of the Little Miami, and ranges between two hundred and seventy-five and three hundred feet above low water at Cincinnati, or between seven hundred and seven hundred and twenty-five feet above sea level. The highest land is found in Cedarville and Miami townships, along the watersheds between the Little Miami and Massies creek and the Little Miami and Mad river. This high region may be safely estimated to be not less than six hundred and fifty feet above Cincinnati or eleven hundred feet above the sea. There is but little difference between the elevation of these dividing ridges. The summits of each consist of stratified beds of sand and gravel belonging to the last stage of the drift period. The highest elevation held by the bedded rock is probably in Miami township, to the north and northwest of Yellow Springs.

The following elevations of a few of the principal points in the county, most of which were determined by Franklin C. Hill many years ago, are all counted above low water at Cincinnati, which is four hundred and thirty-two feet above the sea.

The elevation at the grade at the railroad depot in Xenia, 491 feet; Yellow Springs, grade of railroad at depot, 541 feet; Osborne, grade of railroad at depot, 410 feet; Spring Valley, grade of railroad at depot, 333 feet; Claysville, grade of railroad at depot, 321 feet; Harbine's Station, grade of railroad at depot, 370 feet; Oldtown, grade of railroad at depot, 396 feet; Goes Station, grade of railroad at depot, 427 feet; Berryhills Hill, Spring Valley township, 560 feet; Shoups quarry, two miles southwest of Harbines, 519 feet; gravel bank, Yellow Springs, about 625 feet; railroad grade, one mile north of Yellow Springs (north line of the county) about 600 feet; Cedarville, railroad grade, about 550 feet.

## GEOLOGICAL SERIES.

How wonderfully Nature conceals her inconceivable antiquity under roses, violets and morning dew! On taking a pleasant walk over the country roads, through the woods and over the hills, does the pedestrian realize that the rocky cliffs and the very soil are countless centuries old. Geologically speaking, we do not measure the age of the earth by years but by series. Each series represents a certain deposit of limestone, fossils, clay or shale which has been left on the surface in some distant age of the past, and by these series we can gain some idea of the animal and plant life thousands of years ago. These series may be compared to the annular rings in the trunk of a tree, by which we are enabled to approximate the age of any monarch of the forest.

The rock formations in geological scale of Greene county are confined to the two great series, those of the upper and lower Silurian ages, and between them the county is almost equally divided. If it were possible for one to take a gigantic saw and make a cross section of the rocks of Greene county, it would be found that they were divided into the three following layers: At the surface, the Niagara group, which acquires its name from the falls of that name where this stone is in great evidence; the Clinton limestone, and the Cincinnati series, Lebanon division. The lowest division has an aggregate thickness of two hundred and fifty feet, the middle one, of fifty feet, and the upper one, of one hundred and twenty-five feet; hence the total section of rocks in the county is four hundred and twenty-five feet in thickness.

## THE GORGE OF THE LITTLE MIAMI.

Since it is not possible to make such a cross section of the rock deposits of Greene county in a convenient manner as suggested above, it is necessary to go where nature has made such a cleft, and there is no better place to study the same geological strata in the state than in the gorge of the Little Miami between Goes and Clifton. At the former place, the river is bedded in the limestones and shales of the Cincinnati series, and at least fifty feet of this formation can be found on the western side of the valley. Moreover, the streams from the uplands have their channels in the rock, hence they give ample opportunity for the study of geologic formations. In addition to these, the Xenia pike, what was formerly the Little Miami railroad and the race for the powder mills have all required rock cuttings, hence these improvements lay bare some of the geologic secrets of Greene county. The termination of the Cincinnati series is very distinctly shown in a ravine just south of the old Goe residence, and this may be considered a typical locality, for it is from this point that the place where the upper and lower

Silurian formations can be traced. At this place, between the fossil-bearing beds of the Cincinnati group and the overlying Clinton limestone, there occurs a layer of fine grained shales, light blue and red, destitute of fossils, some twenty feet in thickness. The shale layer occupies the place held by the Medina group in other places in the state, and it has been suggested that the shales represent this formation. This evidently is not true, for in many places in the county the Clinton limestone rests directly upon the Cincinnati series.

At the place mentioned above may be found an excellent example of the Clinton limestone in a wall of rock which overhangs the shale layer, and this same limestone can also be seen in the cliffs along the river valley near the old Grinnell mill. The artificial sections which were made in the old Yellow Springs quarry make, on the whole, the best point in the county where the Niagara group may be studied.

#### THE CINCINNATI SERIES.

The uppermost two hundred and fifty feet of the Lebanon division of the Cincinnati series underlies the western half of Greene county, which area comprises the more eroded portions of the county. Since the layer lies very low, it is for the most part heavily covered with the drift deposits. There are, however, many places where the rock is exposed, especially in Spring Valley and Sugarcreek townships, where the series can be studied to excellent advantage. In the valley of Bear branch, a tributary of the Little Miami, a considerable layer of this formation is shown. The line of demarcation between the upper and lower Silurian formations is shown as distinctly in Greene county as any other place in the state. Another especially good point for the study of this formation is in Spring Valley township, on Cæsars creek, where it crosses the Xenia and Wilmington turnpike; and also in the vicinity of Reeds hill in Bath township. As elsewhere in southwestern Ohio, points where the upper and lower Silurian strata are exposed are marked by many springs.

The stone of the Cincinnati series in Greene county is not of very much economic importance, for the building stone it furnishes is only of a fair quality.

#### THE CLINTON LIMESTONE.

There are several places in Greene county where the Clinton limestone can be studied to advantage. In addition to the fine displays near the old Goe place, it is also in evidence on the Grinnell pike. It is also well shown in Xenia township in the banks of Oldtown run and Massies creek and again near the head springs of Ludlow creek. In Bath township there are miles of its outcrops where the whole formation can be seen with the greatest pos-

sible distinctness. Reeds hill, which may be mentioned in this connection, is a promontory of cliff limestone, overlooking the fruitful valleys of Mad river and Beaver creek, and from its summit can be seen one of the most beautiful landscapes of southwestern Ohio.

The Clinton limestone at all these points, as elsewhere, is mainly a semi-crystalline limestone, whose bedding is uneven and interrupted with lenticular, or knob-like masses. A course can seldom be followed for twenty feet and within this distance it is sure to terminate in a feather edge. The more common colors of the formation in Greene county are light gray, yellow and pinkish, the latter tint being the more common one. Its crystalline character is so pronounced that much of the formation may be counted true marble, admitting of a high polish. When some of the red varieties are selected, it makes a highly ornamental stone, the sections of the white crinoidal stems giving a beautiful relief to the dark background. The stone, however, is of no great commercial value on account of its uneven bedding.

The base of the Clinton limestone, or rather the summit of the Cincinnati series, is an excellent water carrier, as is shown by the line of fine springs which mark the meeting point of the two strata, whenever drainage conditions will admit. The lower beds of the formation are sandy in texture and at many points are porous and easy to crumble; hence the beds are easily cut by the action of underground streams, and small caves frequently occur at the base of the series. In other cases sink-holes are formed from the same general cause. By the dissolving of the rocks along the divisional planes which separate them, streams on the surface can find access to the shales of the Cincinnati series beneath, hence streams of small volume sometimes drop out of sight to emerge again along the outcrops of the formation perhaps miles from the point of descent. One of the best known of these sink-holes in Greene county is found near the intersection of the Xenia and Fairfield and the Dayton and Yellow Springs pikes. The stream that here drops out of sight comes out again a mile or more to the southward, re-enforced, perhaps, by the underground rills, and forms the head spring of Ludlow creek, one of the finest fountains of the county. These sink-holes have been sometimes deserted by the water courses that have helped to make them, and many times these indented places in the surface have been called abandoned lead mines. Formerly, some portions of the county were full of traditions about lead mines which the Indians worked here.

In the early period of the county's settlement, the Clinton limestone served a rather important economic use as building stone, but since it occurs near the Niagara series, which yields excellent building material, it gradually fell into disuse. In earlier times the accessibility of the Clinton beds caused them to be largely drawn upon. In a like manner, the making of

lime from the Clinton stone was abandoned. For many years the outcrops of the stratum at Reeds hill supplied the Mad river valley and the western side of the county largely with lime, and about a half century ago lime was also made from the Clinton stone in Xenia township. The opening up of the Niagara beds caused the Clinton limestone to be abandoned for this purpose, since the former can be more cheaply worked and the quality of the lime is better.

#### THE NIAGARA SERIES.

The Niagara series is the most important rock formation in the county for two reasons. In the first place, it occupies a somewhat greater area than the Cincinnati group, and in the second place, it more distinctly forms the features of the district in which it occurs than does the Cincinnati formation. It has been shown before that many of the more noticeable topographical features of the surface of the county are traceable to cliff limestone of which the Niagara is the leading constituent. Its outcrop is a rocky wall, very often uncovered and quite precipitous, and at least one hundred feet above the surrounding country. The picturesque gorge of the Little Miami and its tributaries are due to the order of the layers of this series, which also has an important bearing upon the water supply of the entire county. The building stone and the lime of the county were almost wholly obtained from the stone of this series, and in addition to the home supply, large quantities were formerly shipped to the neighboring cities and towns.

The divisions of the Niagara group are well marked, and several of the individual members are of greater importance than the Clinton limestone. These members are the Guelph or Cedarville beds, the Springfield beds, the West Union beds, the Niagara shale and the Dayton stone.

#### DAYTON LIMESTONE.

The Dayton limestone, which forms, wherever it occurs, the base of the Niagara series, is found in considerable quantity in Greene county. On the western border of the county, it is found capping the cliff limestone that lies southwest from Harbines in Beaver creek township. Owing to the fact that greater and more accessible deposits are to be found in the Dayton district, these beds have been little developed. The stone, as found here, has all the characteristics of the formation in thickness, regularity, durability and color, but its durability is somewhat lessened by the presence of crystals of an iron compound, which weather on exposure and disfigure the surface of the stone. By far the best known deposit of the Dayton limestone found in the county is on the old McDonald farm which lies three and one-half miles south of

Xenia. This stone was first found here exposed along a tributary of Cæsars creek, and when the quarries were first opened, the stone was covered only lightly by a covering of boulder clay. As the lines have become more extended, the stripping has become more difficult. From four to five feet of workable stone is found here, divided into courses varying from four to twenty inches in thickness. Formerly this stone, before the extended use of concrete, found a market in Xenia as building stone and much of it was shipped from that point by railroad.

#### NIAGARA SHALE.

The Niagara shale which directly overlies the Dayton limestone where the latter stratum is found, sometimes occurs over the Clinton limestone where the Dayton stone is lacking. The Niagara shale, of which eighty-five feet are found at the Niagara Falls, has its maximum development in Greene county in the glen at Yellow Springs, where it attains a thickness of thirty feet.

The composition of the shale is not uniform and the two elements thereof—the light blue and the thin bedded, yellowish limestone shale—are found in varying portions in different sections. In addition to these two constituents of the Niagara shale in Greene county, there occur occasionally numerous crystals and lumps of an iron compound. These little lumps of iron compound, which are found in more or less large numbers near Yellow Springs, have been often construed by the early settlers of this county as indicating mineral treasures in the rocks where they abound. Years ago there was a pit near the mouth of the Cascade branch, six feet in diameter and twenty feet in depth, and walled in with timber. The origin of this hole was unknown to the oldest inhabitants, but it would seem to indicate that these little lumps of iron compound had misled some early settler of the county into believing that the sinking of a mining shaft would open up wonderful treasures of iron ore which he believed undoubtedly lay in the rocky strata below. The surface of this shale is a very important water bearer of this region, for it gives rise to numerous excellent springs along its outcrops and supplies the largest number of the drilled wells on the table land.

#### WEST UNION CLIFF STONE.

The next division of the Niagara series in ascending order is the West Union cliff stone, which does not occur to any great extent in the county. The cascade at Yellow Springs reveals this formation, the water of the stream falling over it. This stratum overhangs the easily weathered shales and thus makes possible the waterfall.

## SPRINGFIELD STONE.

The Springfield stone, which is the fourth element in the Niagara series, is, from the economic standpoint, more important than any other stone deposit in the county, for it is the division which furnishes most of the building stone of the county. This stone has large outcrops in Miami and Cedarville townships. It is much more largely quarried at Yellow Springs than at any other point in the county. However, on Massies creek and its tributaries, west of Cedarville, it has also been rather extensively worked. The section at Yellow Springs is twenty-four feet thick, but not more than twelve feet of it is ordinarily worked. The courses vary in thickness from four to fourteen inches, dimensions which are highly desirable for building purposes. Easily raised and dressed, of convenient thickness and of ample surface, this stone is surpassed by none in the state for rough masonry. The color of it is either blue or drab, the blue frequently weathering to the latter color on the exposed faces of the courses.

In this stratum shaly partings are occasionally found. These are several inches in thickness and occur about eight or ten feet below the surface. This shale, from its impervious nature, is an excellent water bearer.

## CEDARVILLE LIMESTONE.

The Cedarville limestone is the crowning member of the Niagara series in the northern and western portions of a widely extended field, but it is known by different names in different localities, being styled the Guelph bed in Canada, the Racine or Milwaukee in Wisconsin, and the Bridgeport in northern Illinois. In southern Ohio it is termed the Cedarville bed because of the large quarries which have been opened at that village. There is, however, not as great a thickness of the limestone shown at Cedarville as at Yellow Springs, the latter place being decidedly the best section of the Niagara series in Greene county. Here it may be safely said that the total thickness of the Cedarville bed is not much less than forty feet.

The characteristics of this stone in Greene county are quite marked. The lowest ten or twelve feet of the stone consists of solid stone almost without any planes of stratification, and when it is blasted it comes out in large irregular fragments. This, of course, makes it valueless as building stone. It is very light gray in color and the numerous cavities found in it, large and small, are all studded with small crystals of lime. The upper surface is crowned with the casts of fossils, the faces of which are frosted with crystals. The upper portions consist of a very thin bedded and fragile limestone, which is often sandy in texture and light gray or yellow in color. The latter is the predominant color at Yellow Springs, the former at Clifton, while both colors appear at Cedarville.

But a single economic application has been made of the Cedarville limestone. The condition in which it is taken out of the quarry makes it unfit for building purposes, but as a source of lime, it is without a rival in the market of southern Ohio. In comparison to the amount of construction work done at the present time, the amount of lime consumed has not kept pace with the general growth and development of the country, because of the extended use of cement. For many years lime in large quantities has been burnt at Yellow Springs and Cedarville. At Cedarville the production in 1874 was as follows: D. S. Ervin, 280 carloads or 85,000 bushels; Wesley Iliff, 130 carloads or 40,000 bushels; Shroads & Gibney, 130 carloads or 40,000 bushels; Orr & Son, 75 carloads or 23,000 bushels; Satterfield & Son, 40 carloads or 12,000 bushels. The price for the product in 1874 was fifty-five dollars a carload or eighteen and one-third cents a bushel, but when retailed at the kilns it sold for twenty-five cents a bushel. At Yellow Springs, in the same year, thirty thousand bushels of lime were produced and sold at fifty-five dollars a carload, the same as the Cedarville product. The Yellow Springs quarry reached down to the building stone courses, and in the same year five hundred perches of the same were sold at the price of one dollar and seventy-five cents the perch.

The Cedarville beds have been instrumental in the forming of the beautiful scenic effect of the gorge of the Little Miami at Clifton. These beds, which are a bluish white in color, overhang the Springfield courses which are very easily weathered because of the shaly partings between them. As the Little Miami wore through the cap rock of Cedarville stone, the gorge was found to be as wide or wider at the bottom as at the top. Then again, as the work of erosion progresses, the cap rock unsupported by the Springfield stone which is worn away with comparative rapidity, tumbles off into the ravine.

It is certain that this beautiful valley has been growing in this manner, which we can mark out today, since the Little Miami first wended its way down through its course.

#### THE GLACIAL DRIFT IN GREENE COUNTY.

Many, many centuries ago, possibly before the Americas were inhabited by primitive man, the great ice sheet, which was many feet in thickness, moved slowly down from the north until it reached an irregular line in Ohio somewhat north from the Ohio river. As this tremendous mass of ice slipped and ground over the land, it scooped out beds of new lakes, leveled the hills, filled the valleys and cut new river channels. An immense amount of debris was carried along with the ice sheet and when it melted, the boulders and gravel and soil were left in large drifts. The land which many cen-



turies after became Greene county was passed over by this immense mass of ice, which left in this section numerous traces of its work here those many thousands of years ago. The materials for an extended study of the drift are spread over the rocky floor of this county.

When the ice came grinding over, it polished and planed the surface of the Niagara limestone almost over the entire county; especially are the marking of the ice noticeable in sections of the county where cliff limestone is exposed. These grooves, which are obvious on the uncovered surface of the Yellow Springs quarry, have a direction in most instances of ten to fifteen degrees west of north. These grooves in the quarry extend in a general direction which cuts the direction of the "Glen," which is immediately adjoining, at an angle of twenty-five degrees. This shows that even such a deep fissure as the "Glen" had no influence in changing the course of this ponderous juggernaut of ice which ground on and on over the primitive fields of Greene county, literally cutting off the large hills and filling up the adjacent valleys.

Over the polished surface of the rocks, as well as over extensive areas where the stone retains no marking left by the ice, are deposits of varying thickness of boulder clay. This is a mixed-up mass of clay, thickly set with boulders of various sizes and small pebbles. In its original state, the deposit was very compact, but where it is near the surface and subject to the action of the air, the mass has been transformed from the so-called blue clay to yellow. As the years have passed and the pebbles in this clay have been dissolved, the latter has become more porous and permeable for the air, so that it could support some low forms of vegetable life. The unchanged blue clay is often found in wells and along the banks of streams. In the latter place the yellow clay is washed away as rapidly as it is formed by the air.

The people of Greene county are indebted to the ice sheet for the beds of clean sand and gravel which occur almost everywhere on the surface of this section, especially on the higher points. These beds are in conspicuous layers, but they differ from those of the boulder clay in that the pebbles are water-washed and they look very much as if they have been sifted and arranged under water. Of the several gravel banks in the county the one at Yellow Springs is deserving of special notice. It is located south of the village, about one-half mile from the railroad tracks. Its altitude rises above the rather flat surrounding country to the height of forty feet, and it embraces an area of about two acres. In addition to the sand and gravel deposits in its composition, there are considerable quantities of clay. However, the last mentioned constituent, as are the others, is quite well separated. Boulders of considerable size are met with in the bank, the largest one being about seven feet in length. It is like almost all the other large

sized boulders of southern Ohio in that its composition is largely of gniess, banded with rose-colored feldspar, a crystalline substance. The extensive gravel beds in the county furnish a well-nigh inexhaustible supply of excellent road-making material, and sand and gravel for concrete making in this section.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

Of all the natural resources, that of water occupies a most important place, and Greene county is especially well supplied with this free gift of nature. People living in the central west, where the sources and supply of water are not at all stinted, become so familiar with the bountiful supply of "the nectar which Jupiter sips," that they fail to appreciate the great boon which nature has lavished upon her too often unappreciative children. Farmers of the central states do not find it necessary to irrigate their crops and orchards, for a timely shower freshens the atmosphere and the thirsty vegetation and animal life. Cool springs and rippling branches and sweeping rivers flowing onward in their never-ending courses lie in convenient places for the refreshment of man and beast and vegetation. Greene county has an excellent water supply, which, while not quite equal to that of Madison county, the best watered section in the third geological district, yet, on the whole, is much better than that of Clermont, Brown and Hamilton counties. Here a large portion of the water used for man and beast is derived from springs and flowing streams, as well as from artificial wells.

There are three prominent horizons of springs in the strata of Greene county, and the lowest of these marks the junction point of the upper and lower Silurian formations. This coming together of the two great layers of rocks makes an admirable place for springs to issue forth. At the top of the lower Silurian stratum is the broken layer of the Clinton limestone, which forms an excellent water carrier, and below this is the shale of the Cincinnati group which is so impervious to water that it forms a good floor on which the water can rest. This layer of shale turns the tiny underground stream outward and they appear along the sides of valleys. Two springs which belong to this class are the ones at Goes and at the headwaters of Ludlow creek.

#### SOURCE OF THE FAMOUS YELLOW SPRING.

About seventy-five feet higher in the geological scale there occurs another horizon, the summit of the Niagara shales, which make an important contribution to the water supply of southern Ohio. The springs coming from this source, both numerous and important, are confined chiefly to Cedarville and Miami townships. A third water-bearing bed is found about twenty to thirty feet higher than the one mentioned just before. It is a

shaly seam in the Springfield division of the Niagara series, but it is of much less importance than the other two. Many of these springs occur in the vicinity of Yellow Springs, of which the most remarkable one is that from which Yellow Springs received its name. Although this spring appears to come from this level, there is reason to believe that it comes from a deeper source, and that its outlet is obstructed at its true horizon. The temperature of this remarkable spring varies little with the season and its volume is little affected by drought. Its water contains in addition to its limestone impurities a large quantity of an iron compound, but the source of this constituent is not known as there is no unusual amount of iron in any of the neighboring rock sections. If the water filters through some large deposit of ocherous gravel, such as the latter stages of the drift produced throughout the country, then an adequate source of the mineral matter in the water would be accounted for. There is room enough in the higher lands for large deposits of this gravel, but none can be pointed out. On the other hand, if this matter is derived from the bedded rock, it is evident that large spaces must be left underground by the removal of this material.

Thus with some of the most beautiful scenery to be found in southwestern Ohio, with one of the best sources of water supply to be found in this district, with its excellent natural draining system and with such excellent soil, of which an extended mention will be made in the chapter on agriculture, Greene county may be said to be one of the best in southwestern Ohio. There is no wonder that the noble pioneers cheerfully withstood the privations and hardships connected with the opening up of this wonderful farming section, a vista of which one can behold from the summit of Reeds hill as he looks westward over the valley of Mad river.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE MOUND BUILDERS OF GREENE COUNTY.

As we are accustomed to consider the West a new country, it is difficult for us to realize that in this section and right here in Greene county there flourished centuries ago a people who achieved a certain degree of civilization. It certainly existed long before the mighty army of Xerxes, the Persian, received its never-to-be-forgotten defeat on the field of Marathon, or when our Anglo-Saxon progenitors, clad in skins and rough armor, made their descent upon the peaceful shores of Britain. The remains of this civilization, if such it may be called in the popular sense, can now be seen scattered along the waterways and valleys of the Mississippi basin. This civilization was that of the Mound Builder.

No end of speculation may be indulged in when this race is considered, for the Mound Builder is still a mystery. His story has not yet been told. He is not yet intelligibly tangent to any known race. He is not only prehistoric, but unconnected. His silence is impressive. He is the Pelasgian of the western world. On the other hand, there remains not the least vestige of doubt that the Mound Builder existed, and existed here in Greene county, for he left material remains of his activities in the past ages. But the difficulty arises in the interpreting of his sensations, struggles and aspirations because, with the exception of his mounds and a few crude utensils, he left no record of his existence as did the Egyptians with their hieroglyphics or the Assyrians and their cuneiform writing. Nevertheless, much progress has been made in recent years in the study of this early settler of the West who wandered over what is now Greene county, and much that is valuable has been discovered through the researches of archaeologists. For a century or more the modern settlers of the Mississippi basin have looked with inquiring wonder upon the great fortifications and burial tumuli of the Mound Builders and have collected the stone and flint implements and ornaments of the early denizen of this section. Some scholars who have studied him superficially, have called him "Aztec," "Toltec" and even "Tartar." The recent activities of trained and competent archaeologists have thrown new light upon his habits of living, customs, and grade of culture.

#### EVIDENCES OF THE MOUND BUILDER.

The study of the Mound Builder, himself, is largely confined to a



Mound Near Cedarville.

Mound on Lucas Farm.

The Spring Valley Mound.

The Embankment at Oldtown.

Ancient Channel at Oldtown.

PREHISTORIC REMAINS.



study of his mounds. The large mounds, of which there are twenty-seven in Greene county, still rear their heads along the lowlands and the courses of the Little Miami and Beaver creek, and their builders, whithersoever they may have departed, have left their skeletons in and around these monumental earth-heaps, where they remain today as startling effigies of humanity as at the hour of their deposit. The Mound Builder then lies by the side of his mound, hence he is neither a speculation nor a myth. Whatever may have been his aspirations, his struggles, his empire or his final disappearance, he was a resident of this region, and as real a one as his Anglo-Saxon successor. The Mound Builder interred his dead under two feet of earth at his doorway, his habitation and his graveyard, possibly for lazy convenience's sake, knowing little distinction. Evidently life and death had for him little of the panorama which they have for the civilized being. On opening these sepultures, the forms are found to range from untoothed infancy to toothless old age. However, in general, one-half of the burials are those of infants and children. It seems that these early inhabitants were not very economical with their babies. Scarlet rash, teething and a diet of imperfectly boiled green corn had evidently done their perfect work. From all evidences the Mound Builder was an ardent lover of tobacco, for often by the side of an adult skeleton lies a carved pipe of stone. Here and there, also, among the skeletons lie the spear head, the arrow head, the stone hatchet, or other implements of stone, flint and bone.

It is interesting to speculate how long these human remains laid thus until they were rudely disturbed by the spade of the curio hunter and archaeologist. One hundred, two hundred, four hundred years? Longer than that, for the Indian tribes that met our forefathers here in Greene county knew nothing of these burials. Probably six hundred, ten hundred, two thousand years, then—from the days when Caesar fought his successful wars in Gaul against Vercingetorix or the skin-clad ancestors of the civilized Saxon, now exhuming them, fell under the sword of the Celtic Dagobert in the forests by the Rhine. It is extraordinary how long the frame of man will last. It may be three thousand years, as evidenced by the experience of Schliemann and his Mycenaean kings, or five thousand or ten thousand years as instanced by the remains in Thebes and Memphis in upper Egypt. But here in Greene county, at least, still lie the relics of departed races of men, shocking those who rudely disturb them with their mockery of contrast with man's brief stay in the flesh.

#### PROBABLE METHODS OF MOUND BUILDERS.

With his mounds, his pots, his implements, his ornaments and his clumsy fortifications, the Mound Builder was not dissimilar in his habits

to the Indian who succeeded him. His dwelling sites reveal something of his methods and civilized status. Beyond his primitive implements he wrought neither in wood and stone, and outside of his mounds he was no architect. His home was probably a wigwam of skins and twisted branches. Barring his zealous proclivity for raising mounds, he was only a lazy son of the forest and stream, for the mute testimony revealed by the findings of searchers is against him, even though many in the past have laboriously built up for him a reputation for thrift. He carried his dead only beyond his door yard, and near his habitation he dug circular holes into which he emptied his ash pots, the remnants of his food and the general vestigia of the household. From these have been taken remnants of food, broken and entire implements of stone and bone for household use, shells of the river mussel and land tortoise, flint quirts, fish hooks and arrow heads. The ashes which frequently intervene between sections of the family debris indicate that he cooked his food. Among the implements frequently found are hammers, hatchets, knives, chisels, and wedges of flint and stone; needles fashioned from the delicate bones of birds; rude cups and ladles made of shells for the purpose of distributing the family soup, and many fragments of earthen pots which indicate a size from two inches to almost as many feet in diameter. The most significant of all the contents of these pits for the family refuse are the varied and almost massive remains of animal life. This indicates that the mound builder was carnivorous. Shells of the river mussel are found almost in heaps, and in many instances the bones of several species of animals are found, including those of the elk, deer, bear, panther, wolf, wildcat, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, wild turkey, opossum, polecat and dog, all of which apparently were used for subsistence.

Withal the Mound Builder did not enjoy the grade of civilization which we like to ascribe to him. It is possible that he carried on a rude form of agriculture; his weapons were ample for bringing down the largest game of the section in which he lived, and his gigantic barrows and rude fortifications seem to place him alongside the advancement of the early Egyptians, but the ultimate verdict concerning the Mound Builder must needs give him a status which is not so complimentary as many are wont to allow him. Of course, his cranium is not unpromising, and the occasional discovery of a grotesquely carved pipe or ornament may elevate him toward the rank of a Zuni or an Aztec, but it stands to reason that in the light of the discoveries from the tell-tale cavities into which he threw the family refuse, the contents being the indicator of his everyday existence, his status was little better than that of his successor, the Indian.

#### TRACES OF MOUND BUILDERS IN GREENE COUNTY.

Even though there are numerous traces of the Mound Builders in



Greene county, they have been systematically explored in only one or two instances. In general, these remains are in the western part of the county and along Little Miami, Mad river, Caesars creek and Painters creek, three townships of the county, Ross, Silvercreek and Jefferson, having no such remains within their borders.

The traces left by the Mound Builders in Greene county are of six kinds, plain mounds, mounds raised on hills, single burials, village sites, circles and earthworks, and enclosures. The plain mounds were raised with no attention paid to the topography of the adjoining land, but in two instances these early dwellers of Greene county built their mounds on hills. In several instances they made only single burials. The circles and earthworks were circular mounds raised for fortifications, and the enclosures are circles wherein mounds have been raised as citadels for the general fortification.

In all, there are seventy-six such material remains of the Mound Builders in Greene county. Bath township has four mounds, one mound on a hill, four single burials and one village site; Beaver creek township, one mound and two single burials; Sugar creek township, nine mounds, one mound on a hill, three single burials; Xenia township, twelve mounds, one village site, two circles and one enclosure; Spring Valley township, fourteen mounds and three single burials; Caesars creek township, three mounds; New Jasper township, two mounds; Cedarville township, four mounds, one circle and one enclosure, and Miami township, four mounds, one single burial and one circle.

Within the borders of Ohio there are numerous material remains left by this departed race. Approximately, there are in all some ten thousand mounds. This wealth of archaeological and historical material should not be left untouched, nor should the contents of these mounds be left to the unpracticed and unskilled hand of the amateur. The people of the state have taken wise cognizance of this fact and the General Assembly liberally sustains the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society in its investigation of these messages of the past. One of the pioneers of this movement to preserve the last remnants of this departed race from total obliteration and destruction is one of the best known sons of Greene county, Prof. Warren K. Moorhead. No doubt it was during his ramblings around in the rural districts of the home county that he conceived the idea of giving these material remains of the Mound Builders the scrutiny of an expert archaeologist. He began the preparation for his work, which he has so ably carried out, when he was actively connected with the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society.

The following is a sketch of the Mound Builders of Greene county,

written by Professor Moorhead for the little volume, "Greene County, 1803-1908." The editor of this little book, wherein the history of the county is so well and interestingly epitomized, has kindly given permission to use his article in this connection. It follows:

#### PREHISTORIC MEN OF GREENE COUNTY.

Prehistoric man in Greene county left probably sixty or seventy monuments, of which forty-one are seen at the present day. The historic period—that of the Shawanoes or Shawnees at Oldtown, then Old Chillicothe—did not embrace any of these remains. The Shawnees buried in ordinary graves and confined their village to the little plateau south of the gravel hills flanking Oldtown run. The prehistoric people lived on Caesars creek, Massies creek, Oldtown run, and the Little Miami river.

Whether glacial or preglacial man lived in Greene county is a debatable question. In fact, scientists are divided into two schools on the whole question of glacial man in America. There are those who believe that the discoveries in the gravels at Trenton, New Jersey, Wilmington, Delaware, Madisonville and Newcomerstown, Ohio, and in Nebraska and elsewhere are indicative of a human culture extending back thirty or forty thousand years. Against this proposition are most of the Smithsonian scientists and several leading geologists, who do not believe that the evidence warrants any such conclusion. Although many rough implements were found by me in Oldtown run many years ago and, at the time, thought by Dr. Thomas Wilson of the Smithsonian to be paleolithic in character, yet it is not established that glacial man lived in Greene county.

Coming down to the more recent times and accepting observations and explorations as trustworthy, we observe that the earliest man in Greene county probably buried his dead in natural formations which appeared moundlike in character. It is quite likely that he selected glacial kames and knolls, rounded by the action of the elements during thousands of years; and because digging in this way was easy, he placed his dead in shallow graves upon these graceful summits. When gravel pits were opened in Greene, Fayette, Warren and Clinton counties, it was no uncommon thing to find human remains therein, and alongside such human remains lay types of crude implements somewhat different from those found in mounds and upon village sites. Therefore, I have believed that in Ohio we had not only tribes which built mounds, but also an earlier people, although not necessarily a people of great antiquity—that is, great compared with the age of the glacial epoch.

These early people found game very plentiful, the winters not severe and life on the whole not a desperate struggle for existence, such as characterized tribes in Canada and upon the headwaters of the Columbia and Missouri.

The buffalo roamed throughout central and southern Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana, and as late as 1760 buffalo were killed by Capt. James Smith, long a captive among the Indians. Buffalo bones have not been found in village sites in Greene county, but they were exhumed from ashpits at Ft. Ancient and at Madisonville.

Accustomed as we are to innumerable luxuries, regarding the high development of the twentieth century as a matter of course, and forgetting the millenniums through which man was slowly toiling upwards, we can not understand how the American aborigine achieved what he did. He had no metal, save a limited supply of copper in a few isolated centers. All his art, manufacturing, building, etc., must be accomplished by the use of stone, bone and shell tools. The Indian was more ingenious and saving than we. He made use of such material as he could find. His textile fabrics—whether baskets or blankets—his elaborate pipes and his skilfully made bows were all worked out of raw material by hand. It seems incredible to us that he accomplished his work with such tools as the flint drills, the bone awls, the flint saws and the hammerstones that we find in every collection in Greene county. But one must not forget that the Indian had great capabilities. The Indian brain is finer than that of the negro and his skeletal structure is also of a higher order.

The mound building to which he was given extended throughout the entire Mississippi valley. While there are some mounds in China and a few elsewhere in the world, yet mound building was not practiced largely save among American tribes.

References to archaeological maps of Greene county will show the distribution of mounds, village sites and the earthworks. From the character of the earthworks it is to be supposed that they are defensive. The mounds were for burials exclusively. The method of mound construction was simple. Natives selected a level spot of ground, well situated, preferably near a stream and commanding the surrounding country. They burned off the grass and shrubs and beat the surface until it was level. On these hard burned floors they placed the bodies of their dead with various implements, ornaments, etc., and over the interned heaped a large mass of earth. The earth was carried in baskets and skin bags, as is clearly shown by the different lens-shaped masses averaging about half a bushel in quantity. Shortly after the mound was constructed, grass began to grow and then the monument became more indestructible than imposing structures of stone or brick. A simple mound of earth outlasts any other work erected by man.

Nearest to Xenia of all the works in the county is the circle on Oldtown run, two miles northeast. Unfortunately, I do not recall the name of the gentleman on whose land it lies, but it may easily be found. Within the enclosure is a small mound. It is quite evident that circles were erected as sun symbols, and sometimes as symbols of the universe. The square represented the earth, or the four winds, or the four cardinal points.

West of Xenia is a large mound on the land of John B. Lucas, which was opened about fifteen years ago by George Day and Clifford Anderson. The burials in this mound presented two types, the ordinary interment and the cremated skeletons. Curious tubular pipes, flat tablet-shaped ornaments of slate, the war hatchets, large flint knives, copper bracelets, and problematical forms were found with the skeletons.

The largest ancient fortification of Greene county is at Cedarville cliffs. Squier and Davis, the pioneers of American archaeology, in their famous publication, "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley" (1848), being the first work issued by the Smithsonian Institution, give a description of this work which is herewith reproduced. I quote from their original description:

"It is situated at Massies creek, a tributary of the Little Miami river, seven miles east from the town of Xenia, Greene county, Ohio, and consists of a high promontory, bounded on all sides, excepting an interval at the west, by a precipitous limestone cliff. Across the isthmus, from which the ground gradually subsides toward the plain almost as regularly as an artificial glacis, is carried a wall of earth and stones. This wall is now about ten feet high by thirty feet base, and is continued for some distance along the edge of the cliff where it is least precipitous on the north. It is interrupted by three narrow gateways, exterior to each of which was formerly a mound of stones, now mostly carried away. Still exterior to these are four short crescent walls, extending across the isthmus. These crescents are very slight, not much exceeding at the present time three feet in height. The cliff has an average height of upward of twenty-five feet, and is steep and almost inaccessible. The valley is three hundred feet broad. Massies creek, a considerable stream, washes the base of the promontory on the north. The area bounded by the cliff and embankment is not far from twelve acres. The whole is covered with the primitive forest.

"The natural strength of this position is great, and no inconsiderable degree of skill has been expended in perfecting its defenses. A palisade, if carried around the brow of the cliff and along the summit of the wall, would render it impregnable to savage assault. About one hundred rods above this work, on the opposite side of the creek, is a small circle, two hundred feet in diameter, enclosing a mound. About the same distance below, upon the same bank, is a large conical mound, thirty feet in height and one hundred and forty feet in diameter at the base."

Squier and Davis also illustrated the semi-circular embankment and mound lying half a mile south of the work previously described. They present a diagram of the polygon, seven miles north of Xenia on the east bank of the Little Miami river, some distance below

Yellow Springs. These gentlemen refer to the mound enclosure by a circle on Oldtown run, two miles north of Xenia. At the time their book was published, the high, conical-shaped mound below the cliffs (near the Hon. Whitelaw Reid's house) was something over thirty feet in altitude and one hundred and forty feet diameter at the base. In subsequent years people from Cedarville have attempted its exploration and the height is somewhat reduced and the diameter extended.

The other mounds are scattered about the county, following more or less regularly the water courses. None of them were house sites or "lookout stations," but all may be safely classed as mortuary tumuli. No stone mounds are to be found in the region and artificial terraces common to Caesars creek in Warren county, do not, I think, extend into Greene. If they appear in the southwest edge of Greene, I stand corrected. Save at Cedarville, no large mound exists in the county.

There have been, from time to time, persons living in Xenia who were interested in archaeology. When I was a boy a picnic party was organized to visit Ft. Ancient, twenty-two miles south. I remember following Judge E. H. Munger and two or three other gentlemen who were familiar with Professor Short's "North Americans of Antiquity," about the wonderful enclosure and listening to their comments.

Although the monuments, sixty or seventy years ago, were much more distinct than at present, yet very few persons in Ohio took any interest in them. The pioneer was Caleb Atwater of Circleville, who visited Greene county before 1818. His book, "Archaeologia Americana," was published in Massachusetts in 1820 at Worcester.

Old citizens in Xenia will remember W. B. Fairchild. Of the Xenians of seventy-five years ago, Fairchild was one of the most intelligent. His interest in science was marked and he is mentioned in the first report of the Smithsonian Institution several times. S. T. Owens, surveyor of Greene county in the early forties, is credited with having made the first accurate survey of these interesting monuments. In recent years a number of gentlemen residing in or near Xenia have made archaeological collections. These have a special value to science and should be preserved in the Xenia public library, or where they will be available to future generations. Perhaps the best exhibit of stone art of prehistoric tribes is the collection owned by George Charters. His exhibit comes from Caesars creek, Massies creek, Oldtown run and other favorite sites.

Particular attention is called to the skill of the Greene county natives in the chipping of flint, now a lost art. Some of the large spear heads found in Greene county are made of pink and white flint brought from the flint ridge pits in Licking county, nearly a hundred miles distant, and are marvels of skill and beauty. On some of the larger ones I have seen depressions from which flakes as small as the thirty-second of an inch were detached. Any prehistoric man was able to make his ordinary arrow heads, but it required a master hand to make a certain kind of spear-head, which I have named the "sunfish" pattern because of its resemblance in form and color to the large blue and red sunfish of Greene county streams.

The late Jacob Ankeney had a large collection of Greene county specimens. As a boy I used to go to his house and spend hours with him in the examination of his treasures. But unfortunately this collection has become scattered, so it is said. Next to Mr. Charter's exhibit in size is that of George Day. Doctor Spahr, of Clifton, has some hundreds of interesting implements relating to primitive art of northern and eastern Greene county, and there are a score of smaller exhibits scattered throughout the county. These, taken as a whole, give one a comprehensive knowledge of the stone age in this region. The tribes do not appear to have been sedentary in their habits, although they appear to have lived long enough in one place to raise crops of corn, tobacco, pumpkins and beans. Numerous stone pestles attest this.

So far as we are able to judge, Greene county natives were not given to travel or exchange. Aside from the Flint ridge flint, all materials were local. They received a little copper from the north and a few plates of mica from the south—both dear to aboriginal hearts. But they did not import ocean shells, and pearl beads, and galena, obsidian and Tennessee flint, as did the tribes of the Scioto valley.

Prehistoric man in Greene county was of what is called "Ft. Ancient culture," that is, the Ft. Ancient culture is totally different from the higher culture of the Scioto valley. The tribes of the surrounding counties from beyond the Great Miami on west to the headwaters of Paint creek on the east belong to this same general Ft. Ancient stock. It is quite likely that in case of attack by enemies from the north or from the Scioto, they retreated to Ft. Ancient. Traveling light, as aborigines do when in danger, they could reach Ft. Ancient from almost any part of Greene county in from four to five hours. With the exception of the site at Oldtown, made historic by Kenton, and Boone, and Blackfish, and Captain Bowman, all the other places on which Indian implements are found in the county are pre-Columbian. Their exact age can not be determined, although it is probable that some of them may have been inhabited two or three thousand years ago.

Nothing remains of prehistoric man in Greene county save his mounds and stone artifacts. Civilization has obliterated pretty much all else. Yet, it seems to me, that we owe it to science—if not to the memory of those red men of the simple life—to preserve such of their works as time has vouchsafed to us. The notable ones are the enclosure and mound near Cedarville cliffs.

The "Cliffs" have been a favorite picnic resort for a century. Nothing more picturesque exists in the state. Greene county could easily make of the place a park, for the natural beauty and the park conditions are perfect. The expense would be trifling and the benefit to the community at large beyond price. Such a place as the "Cliffs" near any city would have become a public "nature field" a generation ago.

The park scheme would probably include the imposing mound near Mr. Reid's home and the fortification on the bluffs overlooking Massies creek. The future generations might exclaim with pride:

"Greene and Licking counties are the only two of the eighty-eight that preserve their natural scenery and their antiquities."

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE INDIANS AND OLD CHILLICOTHE.

Through the long and tortuous windings of progress some races of men have risen from their primitive existence to a high state of civilization, but during these devious twistings of destiny some races, off shoots of the original stem, have wandered so far that their position became little bettered with the passing years. Savages they were and savages they remained. Among these savage races of the world's history, no one of them is more unique, fascinating or extraordinary in character and in custom, in action and achievement, than the Indian who roamed the forest fastnesses of North America before the European discoverers and settlers first made their appearance here.

The Indians were a singular and picturesque people. In them were mingled the elements of the human and the brute, the crudity and barbarity of the prehistoric man, and withal the majesty, nobility and lofty sentiment of the civilized being. They approached in many things the political and domestic organization of the modern man. They had their leaders, their chosen chiefs, their sagacious sachems, their mighty men of politics, war and religion; their patriots and martyrs. Even they had heroes and mighty men of valor whose exploits would excite the envy of an Achilles, a Leonidas, a Horatius or a Launcelot.

From what place and when came these children of the forest to the valleys, plains and uplands of North America no one knows and it is hardly worth while to speculate or guess. Unlike the ancient Egyptians, Assyrians, Greeks, Romans and Phoenicians who left their obelisks, cuneiform bricks, magnificent temples, matchless dissertations, codes of law and delicate works of art in bronze, gold and silver, the Indians have left their successors only conflicting and vague traditions which become more confusing and worthless historically as the vista lengthens into the past. Hence, definite knowledge concerning the red man dates back little earlier than his discovery by that famous Genoese sailor, who mistook him for an inhabitant of the distant Indies and therefore called him "Indian."

We have been prone to call him "bloodthirsty red skin," but the Indian on second thought seems no more deserving of that appellation than the paleface who seized his hunting grounds by trickery, fraud and treachery

oftentimes, and then shot the unfortunate savage in cold blood. No wonder it is that the Indian turned upon his betrayer and practiced cruelty which did not bear the refinement of that perpetrated by the latter. Again, we have preserved in our annals the massacres of the whites by the redskins, but the latter did not record the many deeds of butchery of which they were the victims, save in their own hearts where they nursed the fires of their vengeance.

#### THE SHAWNEES

Since the beginning of the known history of the Indian, Greene county and western Ohio have been under the suzerainty of many different tribes, and it was here at Oldtown and on the Scioto that some of the most terrible struggles between the whites and redskins took place. It must be remembered that the Indian in his settlements did not become a permanent resident, but continued to shift his habitat. Above all he was migratory, and if he did descend from the lost tribes of Israel, as many ethnologists claim, he surely had the characteristics of the "Wandering Jew." This was especially true of the Shawnees who made the last stand of the red race for their hunting grounds in Greene county before the ever-increasing tide of white immigration. Restless and fearless, wary, warlike and nomadic, they were the vagrants of the trackless wilderness, the aboriginal Arabs, ever seeking new fields for conquest and opportunity. At the time when western Virginia began to feel the approach of civilization, the Shawnees were in possession of the Scioto valley, occupying territory as far west as the Little Miami, since they had been invited there by the Wyandottes at the instigation of the French. This tribe excelled all others in restlessness and in hatred for the white man. From the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, from the Susquehanna to the Mississippi, in the forests, over the prairie, by the mountain streams, the Shawnee hunted the bear, bison and turkey; and almost from the landing of the English at Jamestown in 1607 his favorite activity was the scalping of the cunning and avaricious paleface.

The Shawnee was proud to a fault and considered himself superior to all other tribes of the Indians. He boasted of the tradition that the Creator, Himself, was an Indian, and He made the Shawnees, who sprang from His brain, before He created any other human race. After the Creator had made the Shawnees, He made the English and French out of His breast, the Dutch from His feet and the "Long Knives," the Americans, from His hands. All these inferior races He placed beyond the "Stinking Lake," the Atlantic.

They were doubtless among the tribes which welcomed John Smith at Jamestown. Old chronicles make mention of them at different places. In 1632 they were on the Delaware river; in 1685 they were inhabitants of the

Illinois country. Marquette and Joliet spoke of them as residents, if they could be so called, of the Northwest. They were chiefly located in the valleys of the Cumberland and the Tennessee, from whence they migrated in all directions. This tribe was a party to the great Penn treaty of 1682, and was thereafter the keeper of a parchment copy of that agreement. It is probable that the Ohio Shawnees were emigrants from the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida, having been driven out by the Seminoles and other southern tribes. This migration is said to have been taken under the leadership of the chief, Black Hoof.

Christopher Gist reported from his journey through this country in 1750, in behalf of the Ohio Company, that the Shawnees were a very strong tribe located on the Scioto. Bouquet says in 1764 that the same tribe numbered about five hundred warriors. It is certain that the Shawnees were a well-established tribe in Greene county when the white settlers began moving up from Kentucky. Their arrogant and autocratic disposition, and their untempered ferocity made them the most formidable and most feared of all the tribes with which the western settler had to contend. Fortunately, however, when the first settlers of what is now Greene county began to establish their homes here, they were little bothered by this turbulent tribe of redskins.

#### OLD CHILLICOTHE.

Old Chillicothe, the site of which is now occupied by the peaceful village of Oldtown, was one of the chief villages of the Shawnee Indians. This town, before the entrance of the paleface into the country which later became the beautiful county of Greene, was one of the largest "cities" in the Ohio country, numbering about eleven hundred souls. Beautifully situated in the broad valley of the Little Miami, it occupied a site of rare beauty. A lovely prairie stretched away to the west, bounded by a range of wooded hills. On the north meandered the Little Miami.

Old Chillicothe was one of the terminal points of the many Indian "thoroughfares" which penetrated the forest fastnesses of the land north of the Ohio. Here at the council house, which occupied the site of the present school house of Oldtown, Black Fish, Tecumseh and the hated renegades, Simon Girty, McKee and the Scotchman Dixon, met in council with the warriors of the Shawnee nation and planned marauding expeditions against the white settlements of Kentucky. To this historic old place the grand old pioneers, Simon Kenton and Daniel Boone, and many other less famous backwoodsmen were brought to languish in captivity, to be adopted into the tribe or to suffer the torments which only the Indian mind was an adept at manufacturing.



Depredations perpetrated by the Shawnees against the peaceful settlements of Kentucky made it necessary for the "Long Knives," or Americans, to send several military expeditions against old Chillicothe, the headquarters of the redskins. In 1774 the Earl of Dunmore, the last royal governor of Virginia, made the first expedition against the Shawnees, and although the line of march did not pass near Oldtown, it is quite likely that many of the braves from old Chillicothe took part in the unsuccessful attack of Cornstalk against Colonel Lewis, who commanded a detachment of Dunmore's troops at Point Pleasant on the Ohio river. In 1780 and again in 1782 Gen. George Rogers Clark led expeditions of Kentuckians against old Chillicothe and laid the village in ruins and destroyed the Indians' crops. In 1779 Colonel Bowman made an unsuccessful attack on this Indian village. The aid that the Indians received from the British caused them to become arrogant again, and in 1790 General Josiah Harmar sought to chastise them again by destroying old Chillicothe, but he was forced to turn back from any further operations against the savages because of their superior numbers and excellent leadership. Major Hardin's attack on old Chillicothe in the same year netted little more than the destruction of the place and he, too, was forced to turn back. Then in 1791 came the ill-fated attempt of General St. Clair, the territorial governor of the Northwest Territory, and the success of the Indians so elated them that it seemed the white settlement of this vast territory was completely frustrated. In 1794 "Mad Anthony" Wayne, the hero of Stony Point, administered such a severe defeat to the Indians at Fallen Timbers that they never recovered from the disaster. The treaty of Greenville, which General Wayne made with the several chiefs of the Indian confederacy in August, 1795, left the whites in control of this vast country and Ohio was thus opened up to peaceful settlement.

#### OTHER CHILLICOTHESES.

It is well at the outset to correct some impressions of old Chillicothe. There were several Indian villages thus named in Ohio, and considerable confusion has arisen over this fact. The word chillicothe, or che-le-co-the, as it was pronounced by the famous chief, Logan, was a common noun applied to Indian villages, meaning "the place where the people live." There were five old Chillicotthes, one at the site of the present city of Piqua, one down the Scioto river about four miles from Circleville, near the present village of Westfall; another three miles north of Chillicothe, in Ross county; one on the site of Oldtown, this county, and there was still another village on the site of the present town of Frankfort, twelve miles north of the city of Chillicothe. Hence, while reading the recital of the adventurers of some of the pioneers, the reader is likely to think of them all taking place at one

of the chillicothes. It is certain, however, that the chillicothe of Boone and Kenton is the one that existed in what is now Greene county, as will be later shown.

It is impossible to establish the date of the founding of the chillicothe on the Little Miami, here in Greene county, for its founders, the Shawnees, left no record of the time of their coming to these parts. It is known, however, that early in the eighteenth century quite a large body of the Shawnees left their hunting grounds in the Carolinas, Georgia and northern Florida and migrated northward under the leadership of their chief, Black Hoof, and settled on the banks of the Great and Little Miami rivers and on the Scioto. It is probable that 1750 found the village of old Chillicothe thoroughly established here in what later became Greene county.

Though this chillicothe was an important "city" in those days, the largest village of the Shawnees was the old chillicothe on the banks of the Scioto. During the years of their great activity in Ohio, war parties were constantly passing from one village to the other, a distance of almost one hundred miles. But the old chillicothe in this county was considered one of the Shawnee capitals, and its importance became greater in the eighties of the eighteenth century, after the destruction of the Shawnee villages on the Scioto, for the survivors removed to the town on the banks of the Little Miami and here made their home until the old chillicothe was abandoned in the nineties of that century. It must not be thought that the Shawnees of this old chillicothe were degraded savages, for they had cabins almost as comfortable as those of the early white settlers. The Indians were well clothed, and had quite extensive gardens, orchards and corn fields. In its palmiest days the village was about a quarter of a mile in length, several acres of which were enclosed within a stockade. The huts were straggled along in irregular order, and for the most part occupied the little elevation which is now marked by the brick school house, a frame house, an orchard and barn at Oldtown, on the left side of the road which leads from Xenia. In the heart of the village was the council house which stood on the site of the present brick school house. It was a long, narrow building, roughly made and scarcely waterproof, where the warriors repaired to take counsel among themselves on matters of pressing interest to the tribe, questions of the hunt or the warpath. Soon after Simon Girty and the Scotchman Dixon joined the Shawnees at this chillicothe, the two renegades superintended the improvement of the council house. As was said before, old Chillicothe was one of the most populous villages in Ohio during its prosperous days, for it contained a population of eleven hundred, of which three hundred were warriors. When it is considered what manner of Indians the Shawnees were, the importance of the war strength of old Chillicothe during those trying

days in the early history of the Northwest Territory can be readily understood.

#### A SCHOOL BOY'S VIEW OF OLDTOWN.

In 1899 the *Ohio Educational Monthly* offered a series of prizes to the pupils of the grade schools for the best papers along the lines of Ohio historical research. Among the many contributions thus inspired was one relating to the history of Oldtown in Greene county, written by Clark McVay, then a pupil of the seventh grade of the Xenia public schools, which was given honor place by the *Monthly* and which is such a concise and comprehensive presentation of the subject which has been treated of in this chapter that it is here reproduced:

Oldtown, situated three and a half miles north of Xenia, is of historical note. It was once called old Chillicothe town. As the Indians called any town Chillicothe the people here called this town old Chillicothe town and called the one on the Scioto old Chillicothe.

In the year 1773 Capt. Thomas Bullitt of Virginia, one of the first settlers of Kentucky, was proceeding down the Ohio to make surveys and a settlement there. He left his party and went through the woods to old Chillicothe town to obtain the consent of the Indians for his intended settlement. The Indians, astonished by his boldness, finally consented to his settlement. He is supposed to have been the first white man who ever saw the place. Shortly afterward some of his party laid out the city of Louisville, Kentucky. In 1778, the celebrated Daniel Boone was taken prisoner in Kentucky and brought to old Chillicothe town. Shortly afterward, through the influence of the British governor, Hamilton, Boone, with ten others were taken to Detroit.

It is known, but it has never been published (in fact, only one man knows it here) that in 1814 a court was held in a brick house near old Chillicothe town (now occupied by O. W. Linkhart), present at which were David Laughead, James Galloway (father of Major Galloway) and General Whitman. The first question asked Laughead by the lawyers was, "When was the first time you ever saw Oldtown or old Chillicothe town, where we now are?" He replied that 1780 was the year. He said that the reason he remembered it so well was because he was one of the few men who marched against the place and another town, Piqua. The Indians of this place and Piqua made frequent raids on the frontier of Kentucky, and these men came north to punish the Indians. The Indians had deserted the town, but the men destroyed the crops and went back to Kentucky.

In the year 1806 a fight occurred at old Chillicothe town. It was between Ben Kizer, champion of Greene county, and Aaron Beal, a citizen of Greene county. The indictment against the men has been found. Beal came out victorious.

It is about half a mile south of town where Simon Kenton ran the gauntlet. He did not quite succeed in getting through. Near Oldtown, on a certain hill, are some earthworks about eighteen inches high. This is the place where General Harmar was defeated. John Morgan, a man who was with General Harmar, said that when they were retreating many men died and were covered with a thin layer of dirt. This accounts for all of the skeletons that have been ploughed up recently.

#### BLACKFISH.

Among the many chiefs who undoubtedly made old Chillicothe their home, was Blackfish, the one of greatest note. It is not known when he was born or who were his parents, but the raids which he led against the whites of the Kentucky settlements made his name for many years a means by which pioneer mothers stilled their children.

## TECUMSEH.

The greatest Indian in the known history of the race was Tecumseh who, according to Rev. Benjamin King, an adopted member of the Shawnee tribe, was born near old Chillicothe, in Greene county, in 1770. The authorities differ as to the place of his birth, the best maintaining that he was born not far from old Chillicothe, in his mother's cabin on Mad river. But be that as it may, the village was a small one and the main Shawnee town was at old Chillicothe. He was a full-blooded Shawnee and was one of two boys born at the same time. As twins are rare among Indians, this incident of his birth had with it religious significance and Tecumseh was famous even in his early youth. This noble Shawnee and his brother, who later became known as the Prophet, very probably hunted and fished within the confines of what later became Greene county, which has the right to claim him, if not as a son, at least as a resident.

This "noble" red man devoted himself to the expulsion of the paleface from the hunting grounds of his people, and it seems that in the years when he was most active, his contentions were just, right and reasonable. Moreover, he had every reason to hate the white man. His father, a Shawnee chieftain, had fallen under the bullets of the Long Knives at the battle of Point Pleasant in 1774; his eldest and dearest brother had lost his life in an attack on a southern post, and another had been killed while fighting by the side of his illustrious brother at the battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794. His mother's home had been destroyed by the whites and the lands of his people had been taken from them by the treaty of Greenville. But even with all of this, his spirit was not that of personal revenge. He hated the whites as the destroyers of his race, but all prisoners and defenseless people could depend upon his honor and humanity for their safety. He discouraged the cruelties which his people practiced against prisoners. In his boyhood he witnessed the burning of a prisoner, and the spectacle was so terrible to him, an unschooled aborigine, that by an eloquent plea he induced the party to give up the practice forever. The nobility in his nature, his cavalier qualities make the children of the men he hated blush for some of the outrages which our forefathers carried out against the redman. Had this Bayard of the Shawnee been ably and unselfishly supported, it is likely that much suffering of his brethren and much white blood which was spilled might otherwise have been saved.

## TECUMSEH AND THE GALLOWAYS.

Since old Chillicothe was a very important village of the Shawnees, Tecumseh spent much of his time within the borders of what became Greene county. He kept in his heart a great affection for his birthplace and here he

became well acquainted with some of the very early settlers of Greene county. A tradition of the Galloway family concerning this Indian leader, which is related in the little book, "Greene County, 1803-1908," reveals a trait of Tecumseh's nature.

The Galloways were near neighbors to some of the best known of the Indians who occupied that part of the county. This fact is worthy of special note as their family traditions are rich in interesting accounts of the friendships with the redmen that were formed in those early days. The distinguished Tecumseh was a frequent and welcome visitor at this home and soon became much infatuated with the daughter, Rebecca. With the true dignity which was ever a trait of the character of Tecumseh, he approached the father, who feeling that his daughter could perhaps, more tactfully find a way out of the embarrassing position and still retain the good will of the Indian, which they greatly desired to keep, referred him to her. The chief fearlessly appealed to the girl herself, for was he not the great Tecumseh, the leader of his people? He offered her beautiful gifts of silver ornaments dear to his people. She told him she could not work like the Indian women did, nor lead the wild life they did. He assured her that she need not work. Then she changed her tactics and told him she would consider his proposition, if he would promise to lead the life of a white man and assume their dress and habits. This matter he took under consideration, but finally told her, most sorrowfully, that he could not possibly do that; that the taking up of the manners and customs of the white man would place him in everlasting disgrace with his people and much as he desired the union he could not bear their reproaches. And thus we see the womanly daughter of the pioneer fully able to turn aside the undesirable suitor, but still retain a very necessary friend, for the friendship between Tecumseh and the family never waned.

#### PEN PICTURE OF NOTED WARRIOR.

Col. W. S. Hatch in his "History of the War of 1812" gives the following description of Tecumseh when he saw him on the streets of Detroit on August 17, 1813:

The personal appearance of this remarkable man was uncommonly fine. His height was about five feet, nine inches. His face, oval rather than angular, his nose handsome and straight, his mouth beautifully formed like that of Napoleon I, as represented in his portraits; his eyes clear, transparent, hazel, with a mild, pleasant expression when in repose or in conversation, but when excited in his orations or by the enthusiasm of the conflict, or in anger, they appeared like balls of fire; his teeth beautifully white, and his complexion more of a light brown or tan than red; his whole tribe as well as their kindred, the Ottoways, had light complexions; his hands and arms were finely formed; his limbs straight; he always stood very erect and walked with a brisk, elastic, vigorous step; invariably dressed in Indian tanned buckskin; a perfectly fitting hunting frock descending to the knee was over his under clothes of the same material; the usual paint and finish of leather fringe about the neck, cape, edges of the front opening and the bottom of the frock; a belt of the same material in which were his side arms, an elegant silver mounted tomahawk and knife in a strong leather case; short pantaloons, connected with neatly fitting leggings; a blanket of the same material thrown over his left shoulder, used as a blanket in camp and as a protection in storms.

#### DANIEL BOONE AT OLDTOWN.

For almost a hundred and forty years after the landing of the Pilgrims, the country west of the Alleghanies remained a "howling wilderness," known

only by a few hardy French traders, explorers and Jesuit missionaries. The opening of this fertile territory to the settlement of the whites was due to such hardy pathfinders as John Sevier, Isaac Shelby, James Robertson and Daniel Boone, the latter of whom came to be regarded as the ideal of American frontiersmen. When it is realized that Kentucky was the stepping-stone used by the pioneers in settling the Northwest Territory, an estimate can be made of the great service rendered by Boone and his companions in blazing the trail for their white brothers into this vast country.

In his early life Daniel Boone had a more or less uneventful existence, although he was a member of the unfortunate Braddock campaign in 1755. His training while living in the frontier settlements of the English colonies fitted him for his remarkable and valuable service along the Ohio river. It was not until May 1, 1769, that he left his family on the banks of the Yadkin river in North Carolina to go in search of a new field for pioneering. For some time tales of the fabulously fertile country called Kentucky across the Alleghanies had come to the ears of Boone, and he longed to remove his family to that place. Since settlement in that country was fraught with danger from the redskins and wild animals, he pushed out by himself to prepare a place to which he could take his family. He found Kentucky all that he had dreamed it to be and in 1771 he returned to the Yadkin, sold his farm and started out with his family in company with five or six other families for the Kentucky country. The party was attacked by the Indians, who had watched with displeasure this invasion of their hunting grounds, and the settlers were forced to turn back. Nothing daunted, Boone asked the assistance of Governor Dunmore of Virginia in settling the region, and the latter became very much interested. When the governor invaded the Ohio country in 1774, Boone was one of his scouts. In 1775, Boonesborough had been platted and as soon as a fort was built Boone brought his family safely through to that settlement, which became the center of all the Shawnee invasions from Oldtown into Kentucky.

#### BOONE'S CAPTURE.

On January 1, 1778, Boone selected about thirty companions and started for the salt springs on the Licking river, about a hundred miles north, to make salt for the different garrisons in the Kentucky country. They carried with them on horses, several large boiling pans, given to the settlements by the governor of Virginia, but when they arrived at the Licks, they found the water so weak that it took eight hundred and forty gallons of water to make a bushel of salt. While the saltmakers were at work, two or three others of the party served as scouts and hunters and Boone was one of the

latter. On Saturday, February 7, 1778, Boone started out alone with a packhorse for a supply of game which was very plentiful about the salt licks. Having killed a buffalo, Boone had started back to the Licks in the afternoon with the best cuts of the meat tied on the back of his horse. It was bitterly cold. When he was about ten miles from camp, he was discovered by four Shawnees, members of a large party of Oldtown Indians under Blackfish and Munseka, who had taken the warpath to avenge the death of Cornstalk. Benumbed with the cold and unable to unpack his horse and flee, Boone was captured after a sharp fight with the redskins. He was then taken to the main camp of the Indians and he later induced his companions to surrender peaceably.

#### JOURNEY TO OLDTOWN.

The Indians, highly elated over their success, for they had captured twenty-eight of the saltmakers, immediately started back to Oldtown, where they arrived on February 18, after an uncomfortable journey in severe weather. The captives received excellent treatment from the Shawnees, however. During the journey the supply of food became very much depleted and they were obliged to kill and devour their dogs, and after this source of sustenance was exhausted, they were forced to live for ten days on a brew made from the inner lining of whiteoak bark. Finally the party killed a deer, but knowing that their stomachs were not prepared for substantial food, the savages boiled the animal's entrails to a jelly which they drank freely. They offered some of it to Boone but he refused it. However, he was forced to drink it, and his grimaces undoubtedly afforded much amusement for the Shawnees. Presently he was allowed to eat and the redskins told him that had he not taken the "medicine" the food would have killed him.

On March 10, Boone and about ten of his companions were taken to Detroit to Governor Hamilton, who offered his Indian allies one hundred pounds for Boone, to whom the British governor had taken quite a fancy. This, however, was refused by the Shawnees who were bent upon making Boone a member of their tribe. The Indians had taken a keen liking for the hunter, whose quiet disposition, whose prowess as a hunter and whose skill in border warfare was fully appreciated by them.

#### BOONE BECOMES A SHAWNEE.

On April 10, the Indians returned to Oldtown and Boone was formally adopted into the tribe. This process was a most painful and uncomfortable one. After he had been scrubbed thoroughly in order to wash all the white blood out of him, all of his hair, excepting a tuft at the crown, was plucked

out by the roots. When his face was painted after the approved style of the Indian, he was taken to the council house where he was addressed with all gravity by the chief. Thus were the ceremonies of adoption consummated, and he became a son of Blackfish.

#### BOONE'S ESCAPE.

In the early part of June, 1778, the Shawnees took Boone to a salt lick on the Scioto river, about sixty miles east, where they kept him busy over the kettles most of the time, since he had a thorough knowledge of the process of salting and the Indians were averse to work. The salting aroused Boone's suspicion that the Shawnees were contemplating a descent upon some white settlement, and when the party returned to old Chillicothe in two weeks, he found about four hundred and fifty warriors fully prepared to attack Boonesborough. Boone was in consternation, for he knew that the fort was in no condition to stand an assault. He was compelled to attend the councils with a smiling face, and although he understood every word of the deliberations, he led them to believe that he was ignorant of the Shawnee dialect. To divert any suspicion that he contemplated escape, he entered into their plans with apparent enthusiasm. Boonesborough was one hundred and sixty miles away, but the time finally came when the hunter had to make his escape at all hazards. Knowing that the moment his flight was suspected four hundred and fifty warriors would be on his track, all thoroughly prepared for pursuit, Boone arose on the morning of June 16, apparently to take his usual hunt, but in reality to make his escape to warn the unsuspecting settlement at Boonesborough of their impending danger.

As soon as Boone got out of the sight of the villagers at Oldtown, he struck out southward at his greatest speed in order to put as much distance as possible between himself and his captors before they were apprised of his intentions and could start in pursuit. Although he had made preparations all along to provide himself with ammunition, he now dared not fire his rifle to kill any game nor did he risk lighting a fire. He had, however, provided himself with a few cuts of dried venison before he left old Chillicothe, and with these he appeased his hunger as he hurried along. Finally he reached the Ohio, but, experienced as Boone was in woodcraft, he was a poor swimmer. Fortunately, he found an old canoe which had drifted in among the bushes, and after bailing out the water and plugging up the hole, he crossed the river in safety. Feeling that he then was not in any imminent danger of pursuit, he shot a wild turkey, cooked and ate his first meal since he had left the Shawnee village on the Little Miami. Finally, after a journey of five days, he reached Boonesborough, where he found that his family had returned to North Carolina, having despaired of ever seeing him again.



## DARNELL'S LEAP FOR LIFE.

In the same party of Kentuckians, which included Daniel Boone and who were taken prisoner by the Shawnees in 1778 and brought northward to Oldtown, or old Chillicothe, was a valiant young Kentuckian of the name of Darnell. As shown before, Boone with ten of his companions was, through the influence of Hamilton, the British governor, taken to Detroit, while the remaining seventeen prisoners were left behind with their savage captors. At first it seemed a misfortune to Darnell to be included among the captives who were left behind, but subsequently he found that his remaining in Oldtown gave him the opportunity to escape. Well versed in woodcraft, cunning as a fox and possessing the superior intelligence of the white man, he was successful in making his escape from his captors one night. When morning dawned he was in a wood northwest of the present site of Clifton, where he paused to recruit his strength and to partake of his simple but practical repast of dried venison. Evidently not realizing the danger of his situation, since it was daylight, he took a piece of the dried meat from his pouch and began to devour it with relish.

Darnell had scarcely finished his portion of meat when the slight noise of a breaking twig disturbed the morning stillness. His keen frontiersman's ear and backwoods training told him at once that it was a human foot that had broken the twig, and in an instant he was on his feet with every sense alert. Turning to the direction whence the sound had come, his keen sense of vision enabled him to discover several Indians hidden behind trees. In a moment he knew they were Shawnees, his former captors, who had discovered his escape and had come in hot pursuit. Taking in the situation at a glance, he knew that any attempt to get beyond his enemies, who were in his path would result in his certain capture which would mean certain death by the tomahawk or slow torture at the stake. Flight, however, was the only alternative, flight in a direction directly opposite from the course which he had marked out. The savages, evidently enjoying the white man's discomfiture, remained behind the trees interestedly and intensely watching every movement of their intended prey. Of course, they could have brought him down with a bullet, but it was their intention to take him alive so that the whole village of old Chillicothe could enjoy witnessing the lingering death of the paleface at the stake.

## DARNELL'S FLIGHT.

Tightening his buckskin belt he sprang forward and the Indians, who numbered six, darted from behind the trees in hot pursuit. Although he was no mean runner, the savages rapidly gained ground. His course lay

toward the Little Miami and the gorge through which it flows. As the approaching redskins were almost upon him, the fugitive suddenly veered to the left and quickened his pace. The change in his course did not give him the desired advantage, for he found that he had miscalculated his pursuers' speed and endurance and now feared that he would soon be overtaken. Straining every nerve and summoning all of his energy, he veered still farther to the left when the roaring of the falls reached his ears. As his present course would take him to the falls where he would have the opportunity to elude his pursuers, the Shawnees sent their fleetest runners to head him off; hence he changed his course again and ran straight forward toward an ash tree which stood near the edge of the cliff a short distance below the falls and which he had marked several years before with his hatchet. Again the hunter looked back over his shoulder to measure his progress and to his alarm found that the Indians were almost upon him. The leader of his pursuers was Little Fox, a Shawnee chief, of no mean distinction, and Darnell decided that that savage was the most vulnerable point at which to strike his enemies. Before he left Oldtown he had stolen a rifle and hunting accouterments from his captors and now he examined the priming of his rifle which he found in perfect condition. To the surprise of the savages he suddenly paused in his career near a tree which stood on the road now leading from Clifton to Yellow Springs, boldly faced his pursuers and threw his rifle to his shoulder. Little Fox immediately saw the intention of his quarry, who had the weapon directed at his breast, and tried to shelter himself behind a tree; but he was too late, for when the rifle cracked the Shawnees had lost another valuable chief. Darnell did not pause to reload, for the remaining five darted forward with hideous yells to avenge the fall of their chieftain.

#### THE LEAP ACROSS THE GORGE.

Directly before Darnell lay the gorge which, from bank to bank, was fully thirty feet in width. Cedars and bushes grew thickly along the edge of the precipice and far below rolled the Little Miami, white with the foam from the falls above. The hunter was not ignorant of all these facts, for he had visited it before. He knew the foolhardiness of the attempt to leap the gorge and that almost certain death awaited him on the ugly stones in the bottom of the precipice through which the river tumbled, but such thoughts did not arrest his progress. He was determined to leap the gorge, and if death came to him in the attempt it would come more easily and quickly on the rough stones in the river bed than at the stake back in old Chillicothe. After he had passed the ash tree, he summoned every ounce of his strength and strained every nerve to the utmost for the leap, and a moment later he had sprung from the cliff. To the amazement of the Shawnees who had

reached the cliff and were gazing with wonder at the daring attempt of the white man, Darnell cleared the chasm and grasped a bush on the opposite side of the gorge. With great exertion he drew himself up to solid ground and sprang forward again; however, there was no further need for precipitate flight, for the pursuit was ended. As his form disappeared among the trees, one of the wondering redskins must have given voice to some such expression: "He is more than a paleface. He is under the protection of the Great Spirit, for neither paleface nor Indian could ever have leaped across the Chekemeameesepe. Let us no longer pursue a spirit. We shall never look upon his like again this side of the Dark River and the Happy Hunting Grounds." In silence the baffled savages retraced their steps to Oldtown where they related the story of the daring man's leap to their wondering people. The white prisoners could scarcely believe it, but they afterwards heard the story from the lips of Darnell himself.

#### THE STORY OF JENNIE COWAN.

One of the most tragic and pathetic stories of the days of the Indian occupancy of this region and of the time when the Shawnee village at Oldtown was in its ascendancy had to do with the remarkable adventure which befell Mrs. Jennie Cowan, a great-grandaunt of the venerable pastor emeritus of the Second United Presbyterian church at Xenia, the Rev. James Gillespy Carson. During the middle eighties of the eighteenth century Jennie Cowan, with her husband and young daughter, was living with her family in the settlement surrounding the pioneer fort in what is now Blunt county, Tennessee. One day when the men of the settlement were outside the blockhouse engaged in the tending of their crops, a band of the Shawnees which had gone down into the Tennessee country from their headquarters at Oldtown descended upon the settlement, killed and scalped the men and took some of the women prisoners, among the latter of whom was Mrs. Cowan. This unhappy woman, mercilessly bereaved of her husband and cruelly torn from the side of her daughter and the companionship of her associates at the settlement, was taken by her savage captors to the headquarters of the tribe at Oldtown, a long and arduous journey across the great Kentucky country and up into the valley of the Miamis. The Indians, with savage venom, thinking to add to the trials and miseries of their unhappy captive, compelled the poor woman to carry with her the scalp of her slain husband. This, however, instead of being added punishment, as her captors had designed, was but a gruesome task willingly borne by the bereaved woman, who gladly bore the scalp of her husband in the bosom of her dress rather than to see it in the desecrating hands of her blood-thirsty captors. Upon the arrival of the marauding band at the Shawnee village (Oldtown) Jennie Cowan was given

over to the charge of an old squaw and was compelled to serve the latter as a slave during the period of her captivity, subjected to cruel treatment and under the necessity of performing the drudgery of her savage mistress's primitive abode. Among the tasks required of her was that of drawing and boiling the sugar water during the early days of the spring. As Doctor Cowan recalls the story, which was related to him in his childhood by his mother, who had it from her grandaunt, during one of these seasons of sugar-boiling the unhappy captive fell asleep after three days and nights of ceaseless vigil over the kettles of sugar water and thus permitted the fires to die out and the sugar water to get out of "boil." She awakened just in time in the gray dawn of the morning to relight the fires and renew the boiling process before her savage taskmistress appeared on the scene.

For seven years Jennie Cowan was held in captivity at the Shawnee village. During the latter period of this captivity one of the Shawnee braves from the nearby Mad river station of the tribe declared his admiration for the white captive and made her an offer of marriage, which, of course, was declined. The captive's taskmistress insisted upon her acceptance of the proffer of marriage and threatened dire consequences in case of further declination of the "honor," but the chivalrous brave, gracefully acknowledging the right of the captive to her own choice in the matter, withdrew his suit and in order to appease the wrath of the squaw who held the white woman's temporary destiny in her hand, declared that he did not want the fair captive and would not have her. His open admiration, however, did not abate and presently found tangible expression in an offer to the captive of a means of effecting her escape from the village. He arranged for the holding of a shooting match at his station on the Mad river and appointed a comrade and a young Indian woman there to meet the captive secretly and see that she had safe conduct to Ft. Detroit. And thus Jennie Cowan, after seven years of captivity, was enabled to make her way from Oldtown. The released captive and her escort crossed Lake Erie on the ice, for the escape was effected in midwinter, and were nearing the fort at Detroit when the Indian who was guiding Mrs. Cowan was attracted by the possibility of getting some whisky at a sutler's camp not far from the fort and entered the place. There his captive was recognized by another Indian, who seized her and announced his intention to return her to the station at Oldtown. Her guide, however, was able to secure the assistance of a friendly Indian and prevented the execution of the threat which would have returned the white woman to a captivity than which death would have been more welcome. She presently was safely conducted to Ft. Detroit, where she was given tender and kindly care and was after a while escorted to Ft. Pitt and thence down the river to Maysville, from which point she was able to make her way to her former

home in Tennessee, where she was received with open arms and many manifestations of rejoicing on the part of the settlement, which had long counted her as dead.

Not long after her return to her old home Mrs. Cowan was married to one of the settlers in the community. Two years later a marauding band of Cherokees from the Georgia country invaded Tennessee and the much-tried woman again was taken captive, her daughter this time being taken captive with her. For two years the women were held in captivity by the Cherokees. A company of young men in the Blunt settlement then was organized to proceed against the Cherokees for the purpose of rescuing the captives. This company succeeded in compelling the surrender of a band of Cherokees and with the captives thus secured was enabled to effect an exchange of prisoners and the unhappy white woman and her daughter, the former of whom had been compelled to spend nine years of her life in durance among the redskins, were again restored to home and civilization.

## CHAPTER V.

### COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

Just twenty-three days after Ohio became a member of the Union, Greene county was erected into one of the civil divisions of the state, March 24, 1803, by an act of the General Assembly. This section was not the only one favored with the privilege of forming its local government, for three other counties were erected by the same act, Warren, Butler and Montgomery counties. The first was named after Gen. Joseph Warren, the hero of Bunker Hill; the second for Gen. Richard Butler, a distinguished officer of the Revolution, who fell in St. Clair's disastrous defeat; the third for Gen. Richard Montgomery who fell at Quebec in the American attack on Canada during the Revolution, and Greene county was given its name in honor of the brilliant American general who led Cornwallis into the trap at Yorktown, Gen. Nathaniel Greene. Since these counties were composed of territory taken mainly from Ross and Hamilton counties, the Legislature out of justice to the parent civil divisions, reserved to these two counties the right to make distress for all dues and officers' fees which were yet unpaid by the inhabitants of the newly established counties.

Although the act creating these new counties was passed on March 24, it was not in force until after May 1, 1803, which date is really the birthday of Greene, Montgomery, Warren and Butler counties. Since the country was wild and undeveloped, no preparation had been made for the immediate establishment of a permanent seat of justice in each of the new counties, and section six of the act provided temporary places where the county business could be transacted and the courts held. This temporary county seat in Warren county was the house of Ephriam Hathaway on Turtle creek; in Butler county, the house of John Torrence in Hamilton; in Montgomery county, the house of George Newcome in Dayton, and in Greene county, the house of Owen Davis, the miller, on Beaver creek; however, this latter house was then occupied by Davis' tenant, Peter Borders. It is quite probable that the reason for choosing the house of Owen Davis for the temporary seat of justice for Greene county was that this cabin was located on the Pinkney road, the only road which extended southward to Cincinnati at that time.

### BOUNDARIES.

The first limits of Greene county were much more extensive than they are today as may be seen by the wording of section four of the act which

created the four counties. There is, however, so much geographical ambiguity in the section describing the original boundaries of the county that it is well nigh impossible to determine with any degree of certainty the limits of the county as set forth by the section. The difficulty in defining these original limits arises from the fact that the framers of the section described the bounds not by township, range and section lines, neither by natural features, but their delineation depended entirely upon the counties previously established, Ross and Hamilton:

Sec. 4. All that part of the counties of Hamilton and Ross included in the following boundaries, viz.: beginning at the southeast corner of the county of Montgomery, running thence east to the Ross county line, and the same course continued eight miles into the said county of Ross; thence north to the state line; thence westwardly with the same to the east line of Montgomery county (Montgomery county also extending by the act to the northern limits of the state); thence bounded by the said line of Montgomery to the beginning, shall compose a fourth new county called and known by the name of Greene.

It would take an expert cartographer to delineate on the map of the state the limits of Greene county as they were described above. In the first place, it is necessary to determine the limits of Montgomery county which was erected at the same time as was Greene; in the second place, the limits of Ross county, whose extent at that time was very vague, would have to be determined. In fact the only definite line of the county at that time was its northern boundary, the state line, but the eastern and western limits of this north line of the county were not determined by this act. Moreover, while the section specifically states that the northern boundary of the county of Greene was the state line, it follows that the framers of the section did not take into consideration the Greenville Treaty line of 1795, for the Legislature as a matter of fact had no right to organize counties out of territory to which the Indians had not then relinquished their title. It follows then that the limits of Greene county in 1803 could not have extended farther north than this Greenville Treaty line of 1795.

#### SCATTERED SETTLERS GIVEN PROTECTION.

The Greenville Treaty line began at the mouth of the Cuyahoga river; thence up that river to the portage; thence across the portage and down the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum to the crossing place above Ft. Laurens; thence in a westerly direction to that branch of the Great Miami at or near which stood Loramie's store; thence northwest to Ft. Recovery; thence in a southerly direction to the mouth of the Kentucky river. The addition of all this extensive tract north of the treaty line to the Greene county of 1803 was the origination of a policy on the part of the Legislature to add to each regularly organized county of the northern tier certain portions of Indian or unorganized territory, which was to be under the civil

and criminal jurisdiction of the newly organized county. This was done to give the scattered settlers in that portion protection. There was little or no effort on the part of the early Greene county government to organize this great expanse of territory. All that was done was the erection on May 10, 1803, of Mad River township, which embraced this extensive section. This township was wild and unsettled as was shown by the petition of James McPherson for a tavern, twenty miles north of Springfield, in 1804. Obviously, most of the civil business transacted by the county government with this great township was confined to its extreme southern portion.

Even the origin of the territory which composed Greene county as it was originally is vague in one respect. According to the section of the act which created this county, it was composed of not only a part of Ross and Hamilton and Wayne counties, but it also had within its bounds a strip of territory which was included in neither of the before-mentioned counties. Generally that strip of land is regarded as having been a part of Hamilton county.

#### QUESTION OF BOUNDARIES A SECONDARY ONE.

Immediately after the organization and establishment of the county, the officers were so busy in starting the machinery of government that the question of boundaries was a secondary one. Townships were organized; the county seat of justice had to be located, the lots sold, and the court house begun. Gradually the question of boundaries between this and adjoining counties arose, especially after the organization of Champaign county in 1805 from parts of Greene and Franklin counties. It was not, however, until 1810 that serious effort was made to delineate the bounds of the county. On January 1, of that year, the board of commissioners made the following order:

Ordered that the surveyor of this county proceed to ascertain part of the north and all of the east boundary of the county by surveying as follows, viz.: Beginning where the old Ross county line crosses the line between the eighth and ninth ranges, which is considered the county line between Champaign and this county; thence east eight miles; thence south twenty-one miles, adjoining Franklin and Highland, or so far south as that the south boundary line of this county will intersect the same; and that notice be given the board of Commissioners of Champaign, Franklin and Highland counties, that the surveyor of this county will proceed to survey accordingly on the third Monday of March, next, and continue from day to day until the same is completed, and that said surveyor take to his assistance two chain carriers and one marker, to mark with three chops, fore and aft.

(Signed) JOSIAH GROVER, CLK. G. C.

Evidently the task of surveying these two boundaries in the county was no small one, for it was not until the April following that Samuel Kyle made his report to the commissioners in detail, as follows:

Samuel Kyle, Esq., Surveyor of Greene county, being appointed to survey a part of the north and all of the east boundary of the county aforesaid, made his return in the following words, to wit: Beginning at a stake where the old Ross county line crosses the line



between the eighth and ninth ranges; thence east (crossing the north fork of the Little Miami at 2 miles, 148 poles, the Springfield road at 7 miles, 22 poles, a branch of the east fork, 8 miles and 208 poles); thence nine miles, 24 poles to a black oak, white oak and hickory on the line between the eighth and ninth ranges. I then proceeded to ascertain the east boundary. Beginning at a stake eight miles east of the old Ross county line, supposed to be at or near the place where the S. E. corner of the county will be established; running thence north (crossing the Chillicothe road at 3 miles and a half, the south fork of Massies creek at 12 miles and 20 poles, the United States road at 13 miles, the old Chillicothe road at 15 miles and 40 poles, the east fork of Massies creek at 15 miles and 100 poles, the east fork of the Little Miami at 17 miles and 208 poles, and a branch of said fork at 19 miles and 8 poles), 20 miles and 271 poles to the black oak and hickory at the northeast corner of said county.

(Signed) SAMUEL KYLE, S. G. C.

Ordered that the said lines be established agreeably to the survey aforesaid.

#### FURTHER BOUNDARY LIMITATIONS.

This east line of Greene county has not been changed since it was determined in 1810, but there is considerable dispute about its actual whereabouts today, since the survey can not be determined by section, township and range lines, as this part of the county lies in the old military survey. This old Ross county line was located one and one-third miles west of the Paintersville and Port William road, as now located, or eight miles west of the present southeast corner of Greene county. From this point the Ross county line extended north, passing approximately one-half east of Paintersville, New Jasper and Cedarville. Thus Greene county extended eight miles on its eastern side into old Ross county.

The west line of Greene county as established in 1803 has remained unchanged. The task here was easier because that part of the county lies in the Congressional survey. The line between this county and Montgomery begins at the southeast corner of the latter county, in the line of Warren county, and in the east line of section 16, township 3, range 5, seventy and thirty-two hundredths rods south of the southwest corner of section 10, township 3. From thence the line extends northward with the sectional line to the northwest corner of section 9, township 2, range 8. At this point the line extends two miles to the southwest corner of section 34, in the line of townships 3 and 4. Here the line turns northward following the west line of section 34 until it reaches the northwest corner of the county at the northwest corner of this section, which is situated a short distance northwest of Osborn.

The south line of Greene county was surveyed following an order of the commissioners, March 6, 1810. The order is as follows:

The commissioners of Greene county being informed that the commissioners of Warren county having agreed to run a line between Warren and Greene counties, beginning at the Little Miami river at the middle of the fifth range, thence east to the old Ross county line, and the same course continued eight miles; ordered that the surveyor of Greene county do meet the surveyor of Warren county on the 2nd Monday of April, next, at the

place of beginning and proceed to run said line and take to his assistance one marker and two chain carriers, and to have the line marked three notches fore and aft.

(Signed) JOSIAH GROVER, CLK.

The point where the county has experienced the greatest difficulty in determining its boundary has been on its northern side. For only two years did its extent comprise the large tract as set forth in the section of the act which organized the county, for in 1805 Champaign county was organized. By the order of the commissioners of January 1, 1810, the line was, as has been shown before, partly determined by Samuel Kyle. The line then passed a short distance south of Springfield, on the line of the eighth and ninth ranges. It extended east and west two miles north of Osborn, four miles north of Yellow Springs, about four and three-fourths miles north of the bank of the Little Miami and the present corner of Greene and Clark counties at Clifton, and five and one-half miles north of the present southeast corner of Clark county.

After the organization of Clark county in 1817, which was erected out of parts of Greene, Madison and Champaign counties, the line was changed again. On June 15, 1818, the commissioners of Greene county ordered: "That Moses Collier, Surveyor of Greene County, do meet with the surveyor of Clark County on the 18th of this inst., and proceed to run the lines between the respective Countys, aforesaid, commencing on the East line of the County of Greene, five miles and a half South of the North boundary of the Eighth Range and continue until the line is ascertained between the aforesaid Countys of Greene and Clark, and make returns of the same as the law directs." Collier and the surveyor of Clark county finally determined the line which began on the east line of Greene county about three miles south of Charleston, from whence it extended west to a point one and one-half miles west of Selma. The line then ran northward one-half mile to a point northeast of N. E. Holloway's house, from which place it extended westward to the line between townships four and five in the eighth range, near Clifton. The line then followed the township line northward to the line between sections three and four; thence the line followed the sectional line to the line of the third township, northwest of Yellow Springs. From this point the line followed this township line to the sectional line between the fourth and fifth tier of sections in the third range, and with this sectional line it extended to the east line of Montgomery county, joining it near Osborn.

#### INFLUENCE OF GEN. BENJAMIN WHITEMAN.

After the line between Greene and Clark counties was surveyed and established there was one loyal and influential resident of Greene county who was not at all satisfied with the arrangement. This was Gen. Benjamin

Whiteman. That part of the boundary line described as the third above, extending west to the line between the townships four and five in the eighth range, ran somewhat to the south of General Whiteman's dwelling, which was situated on the north side of the Little Miami a short distance east of the present village of Clifton, thus making the General a resident of Clark county. He was at that time, and had been since its organization, a prominent man in Greene county, as he had served as one of the first three associate judges of the first court of common pleas that had established the government of the county and had laid it off into townships. Since he was identified with the public interests of the county, he desired to remain a resident of it. Accordingly he used his influence in the halls of the Legislature which passed a bill on January 25, 1819, so changing the boundary line between Greene and Clark counties that it ran north of the General's dwelling thus causing him to remain a resident of this county. This line is described as follows: "From the line running north one-half miles, thence such a course (west by north) as will strike the line between townships four and five, on the north side of the Little Miami river, in the eighth range." In accordance with this act of the General Assembly, the commissioners of Greene county ordered on July 5, 1819, that "the surveyor of Greene County, in conjunction with the surveyor of Clark County, do ascertain and survey the line between the said Counties of Greene and Clark agreeably to the act of the last session of the Assembly for that purpose made and provided and that the Commissioners of the said County of Clark have notice of the intention of the Commissioners of Greene County of having the said line run according to Law, to begin on the 16th day of August, next, and that each of the said Surveyors do forthwith make return of such security to the Clerk of his respective County according to law."

#### ORGANIZATION OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

The next logical step after the erection of a county was the establishment of a seat of justice, a process that has been the cause of many a bitter fight between two or more persons, or rival villages, in the establishment of seats of justice in many newly erected counties in the Middle West. The first General Assembly of Ohio forestalled this condition in great measure by the act of March 28, 1803, wherein was set forth the process by which a county seat of justice for any new county was to be established. For this purpose three commissioners were to be appointed, whose duty it was to examine and determine what part of the new county was the most eligible for a county seat of justice. These commissioners are not to be confused with the county commissioners, for persons who were residents of the new county or were holders of any real property within the same, and who had

not reached the age of twenty-five years, and who had not been residents of the state for at least one year, were not eligible for such a position. Thus the personal element in the location of the county seat was in great measure eliminated. Sixty days after their appointment the commissioners met in order to give twenty days' notice to the people of their intention to locate the county seat on a specified date. On this date it was presumed that any delegations of citizens with a prospective county-seat site would lay their propositions before these commissioners. The act guided the commissioners in their method of procedure, for they were to select a place as near the center of the county as possible in consideration of the situation, the extent of the population, the quality of the land and the general convenience and interests of the inhabitants.

After these commissioners had agreed upon a place for the county seat, they were to make a report to the next court of common pleas of the county, and if no town had been previously laid off on the site agreed upon, the court appointed a director, who, after giving bond for the faithful performance of his duties, was fully authorized to purchase the land of the proprietor or proprietors for the use of the county, and to lay off the tract into lots, streets and alleys under such regulations as the court prescribed.

In accordance with this act, the Legislature chose Ichabod B. Helsey, Balden Apsby and William McClelland to be the commissioners whose duties it would be to locate the county seat for Greene county, and these same men acted in the same capacity for Montgomery county. The date of their meeting and the proceedings of their meeting the historian has not been able to find out. Tradition has handed down the story of the location of the county seat on the site of Xenia and the naming of the same, and in the absence of records concerning the determination of the site by the commissioners, the reports which have been handed down must be accepted.

#### LOCATION OF THE COUNTY SEAT.

When the question of the location of the county seat was uppermost, there were few settlers who did not have visions of becoming proprietors of the new city which was to spring up in the wilderness of the new county of Greene. It is quite possible that the commissioners were presented with many schemes brought forward by the settlers. On the Paris Peterson farm, four miles southeast of Xenia, a town by the name of Cæsarsville had been laid out by Thomas Carneal as early as 1800. In anticipation of the erection of a new county in this part of the Little Miami country, a court house had been built and a public well had been dug. This young town which bore considerable promise attracted numerous settlers and quite a number of log

cabins sprang up within its borders. Obviously Cæsarsville had county-seat aspirations and it was under consideration for awhile. The inhabitants of Pinkney, a small village located near Trebeins in Beavercreek township on the Miami river, also had its supporters before the commissioners.

There was one resident of Greene county at that time who had very definite intentions of becoming the proprietor of the new city and in him were combined the traits of a good business man with vision and sufficient capital for furthering his schemes. That man was John Paul, who had become a resident of Greene county in 1797, when he settled on Beaver creek. When the question of the location of the county seat arose, like his neighbors, as the story goes, John Paul intended to lay out the new seat of justice on his own holding on Beaver creek, backing up the feasibility of the same by declaring that for advantages of location and the like, his holding was unequalled by any of the county. It seems that Lewis Davis, a large landowner and pioneer of Greene county, and who obviously had the correct idea concerning the future development of the county, convinced Paul that his tract was not the place for the new county seat. It was the opinion of Lewis that the place chosen would be at the forks of Shawnee run, the spot which is now occupied by Xenia. At that time this land was owned by Thomas and Elizabeth Richardson, of Hanover county, Virginia, and on June 7, 1803, John Paul purchased two thousand acres, which comprised surveys No. 2243 and No. 2242, from these two absentee landowners, "in consideration of one thousand and fifty pounds current money of Virginia."

John Paul was a man of considerable influence in the county at that time, and later served for several years as clerk of the court of common pleas, clerk of the court of county commissioners, clerk of the supreme court and county recorder. He undoubtedly began using his influence upon the commissioners who were locating the county seat, who reported to the next court of common pleas that the tract which lay around the forks of the Shawnee run, the proprietor of the same being John Paul, was the best available site. On August 3, 1803, Joseph C. Vance was appointed director of the county to survey the county seat and lay off the town. On November 14, 1804, Vance bought the town site of two hundred and fifty-seven and three-fourths acres from John Paul for two hundred and fifty dollars. Evidently before this transfer Paul had donated to the county-seat town and the county of Greene one and one-half acres of ground for public buildings which was possibly an inducement to the commissioners for locating the seat of justice on his land. Yet while the original proprietor of Xenia was liberal, he had a sharp eye for reaping benefits in the future, as the new town would grow and improve.

## NAMING THE NEW COUNTY SEAT.

How the new county seat came to be called "Xenia" is wrapped in some obscurity and again we must depend upon tradition. The authority for this story is the late Mrs. Maria Stone of Springfield, Ohio, the youngest daughter of Gen. Benjamin Whiteman.

Soon after the commissioners had decided upon the site at the forks of Shawnee run for the new county seat, General Whiteman, his father-in-law, Owen Davis, and his mother-in-law, Laticia Davis, had been invited by Joseph C. Vance, the director of the new county seat, John Paul, William Beatty and others to meet with them at the "cross-roads," the intersection of the present Main and Detroit streets, to aid in deciding upon a name for the new county seat. Of course the invitation was accepted and these pioneers and their families were present upon the momentous occasion along with many others.

Many names were suggested, among which were Greenville, Wayne and Washington. When the discussion was at its height, a scholarly-looking gentleman who had been watching the proceedings, courteously interrupted the meeting, and said: "Gentlemen, allow me to suggest a name for your county town. In view of the kind and hospitable manner with which I have been treated whilst a stranger to most of you, allow me to suggest the name of *Xenia*, taken from the Greek and signifying hospitality." The suggestion was accepted and the name was placed with the others which were about to be balloted upon. Several ballots were taken and at last the contest had narrowed down to a tie between "Xenia" and some other name which Mrs. Stone did not recall. Out of consideration to Owen Davis, one of the earliest settlers in the county and the first miller in these parts, his wife, Laticia, was allowed to cast the deciding vote, which vote favored the Greek name. Thus it was that the new county seat came by the name of Xenia. It was later found out by the pioneers gathered together on that day, that the learned gentlemen who had given them the happy suggestion of Xenia, was none other than the Rev. Robert Armstrong, who one year later became the pastor of the Massiescreek and Sugarcreek congregations of the Associate Presbyterian (Seceder) church in Greene county. It is indisputable that the Reverend Armstrong was present in Greene county in that year 1803, for the records of the court show that during the December term of that year, Robert Armstrong was issued a license to solemnize a marriage.

## THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

When the four counties, of which Greene was one, were established, the Legislature determined that the act was to go into force on May 1, 1803. By another act of the General Assembly, passed April 16, 1803, it was stip-

ulated that it was the duty of the associate judges of the court of common pleas in each of the new counties then organized to meet on May 10, 1803, following, at the places designated where courts were to be held, and lay out the counties into a convenient number of townships and to determine for each township a proper number of justices of the peace, who were to be elected on the following June 21. This first convening of the court of common pleas then was not for the purpose of trying cases, but for transacting the necessary business pertaining to the organization of the county. The following is the record of the first meeting of the court of common pleas in Greene county:

At the house of Owen Davis on Beaver Creek, on Tuesday, the tenth day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and three, William Maxwell, Benjamin Whiteman and James Barrett, Esquires, produced commissions under the hand and seal of his excellency, Edward Tiffin, governor of the state of Ohio, appointing them associate judges of the court of common pleas, of the county of Greene. William Maxwell, esquire, produced a certificate under the hand of James Barrett, Esquire, bearing date, the twentieth day of April, last past, that he, the said William, had taken the oath to support the constitution of the United States and of this state, and the oath of office; and then the said William administered the aforesaid oath to Benjamin Whiteman and James Barrett, Esquires. And there was a court held for the county of Greene, agreeably to the law in that case made and provided. John Paul was appointed clerk pro tempore to said court and took the oath of office.

The court then proceeded to lay off the said county into townships, as followeth (to wit): (the townships established were Sugarcreek, Caesarscreek, Mad River and Beaver-creek townships).

It is considered by the court that for and in the township of Sugarcreek, there shall be elected one justice of the peace, for the township of Caesarscreek, one; for the township of Mad River, three, and for the township of Beaver-creek, five.

It is considered by the court that on the thirteenth, instant, there shall be an election held (at the temporary seat of justice), for the purpose of electing a sheriff and coroner, agreeably to an act of the assembly, in that case made and provided.

Considered that court be adjourned till court in course.

Attest JOHN PAUL, C. G. C.

From thence on during the year the associate judges met to carry on the business of the county since the office of county commissioner had not then been created. The levy of the county must be determined, and on August 26, 1803, it was placed at four hundred and forty-six dollars and four cents, quite different from the levy of today. As the residents of the county had been accustomed to settling their disputes with their fists, much work was in store for the grand jury. The fact that there were some refractory members of the community whose conduct warranted their being confined to jail, a county bastille had to be provided. It was an improvised one, but it surely served the purpose, for the court ordered "that the large block house at Mr. Jacob Smith's Mill on Beaver Creek be appropriated to the use of a Jail, and that Benjamin Whiteman, Esq., be appointed in behalf of the court to contract for the repair of the same." Wolves were plentiful

and an act of the General Assembly gave the governments of the several counties the right to pay bounties for wolf scalps. On August 22, 1803, the record says: "It is considered by the Court that there shall be paid out of the Treasury of Said County, fifty cents for each wolf killed in the lands of said County, agreeably to law in that case made and provided."

#### EARLY ACTS OF THE COURT.

In those early days when settlers by the thousands were coming into the Ohio lands to establish their homes, places of entertainment had to be provided for the newcomers as they went about over the territory, and taverns were a necessity. These "public houses of entertainment" did not exist without sharing the expense of the county government, and the individual who sought to become a tavern keeper, had to get license from the court of common pleas. At the second meeting of the court on August 4, 1803, licenses were issued Archibald Lowry and Griffith Foons of Springfield. Peter Borders, the tenant of the house where the county seat of justice was located, saw an opportunity for increasing his income by keeping a tavern, and accordingly at this same meeting of the court he presented the following petition:

We, the subscribers, beg leave to recommend to the honorable court, Peter Borders as a fit person to keep a publick house of entertainment on Beavercreek in the county of Greene—and we, your petitioners, hope that a license may be granted accordingly—and as in duty bound we will ever pray. Beavercreek, 4th of August, A. D., 1803.

Joseph Vance  
George Allen  
William Ort  
Elijah Davisson  
James Carroll  
Owen Davis  
James McCoy  
David McCoy  
Alexander McCoy  
John McCoy  
Robert McCoy  
Nathan Lamme  
John Paul  
William Maxwell

As the "Honorable Court" were finally convinced that such a house of "publick" entertainment was necessary to the "publick" service, and that Peter Borders was a fit person to operate the same, they accordingly granted him the license.

At this meeting of the court in August, 1803, James Galloway, Sr., was appointed treasurer of the county, in which capacity he served his neighbors continuously until 1819.

By far the most important business transacted by the court was that of



surveying and platting the site of the new town of Xenia. Joseph C. Vance was appointed director on August 3, 1803, and as security for his performance of all the duties depending upon his office he gave the first bond ever given in the county, as follows:

KNOW all men by these presents that we, Joseph C. Vance, David Houston and Josiah Wilson, of Greene County, are respectively held and firmly bound unto the said Treasurer of said County & State of Ohio or his successors in office in the Penal sum of Fifteen hundred dollars,—As witness our hand and Seal, &c.

The Condition of the above mentioned obligation is such that if the Above mentioned Joseph C. Vance shall well, truly and faithfully discharge and perform all and singular the duties, &c. of Director for Purchasing of land, laying off and selling of lots at the Seat of Justice for the aforesaid County of Greene, as established by the Commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, for that purpose, agreeable to an act in such cases made and provided,—the obligation is void & of no effect, otherwise it stands in full force and virtue.

As witness our hands and seals this Fourth day of August, One thousand eight hundred and three.

Attest:

JOHN PAUL, CLK.

JOSEPH C. VANCE (Seal)

DAVID HOUSTON (Seal)

JOSIAH WILSON (Seal)

For the services which he performed according to the bond, Joseph C. Vance received at the term of the next December "\$49.25 for laying off the town of Xenia, finding chairmen, making plots and selling lots." The duties and emoluments arising from the position as director seemed to appeal to Vance and his services were demanded for the laying off of the town of Urbana after Champaign county was organized in 1805. At any rate the minutes of the board of commissioners of Greene county shows that on August 27, 1805, "Joseph C. Vance resigns his office as director, therefore it is ordered that William Beatty be appointed director in his place and that he give bond and security in the penalty of three thousand dollars for the full performance of said office." Nevertheless, in the short time in which the original director of the new county seat was in office, he had plenty to do and in the main his work was done well. There is, however, one instance in the sale of a lot for which he made two transfers. Apparently, the first purchaser did not fulfill his contract and the tract reverted to the county, but Vance made no record of the occurrence, somewhat to the confusion of persons who consult the records concerning the transfers of the tract.

#### FIRST MEETING PLACE OF COURT AT XENIA.

The associate judges continued to hold session of court in the house of Owen Davis, which was located five and one-half miles west of the present city of Xenia, on what is now known as the Harbine farm in Beaver creek

township, until after the June term of 1804. By this time the site of the new county seat had been selected and William A. Beatty, an enterprising Kentuckian, was busy hauling and hewing logs and erecting the first tavern in the new county seat of justice. He had rented the west room up stairs to the county for a court room. This house, which was a hewed log structure, two stories high, was erected on the site now covered by the Dowling block on Main street, opposite the present court house. Its length was from east to west and its west end was about forty-five feet east of the southeast corner of Main and Detroit streets, on Lot No. 13, where the Xenia National Bank now stands. Here the court continued to mete out pioneer justice until 1809 when it moved into the new court house which was completed in that year.

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The office of county commissioner has not existed since the erection of Greene county, and the business which is now transacted by the board of commissioners was first carried on by the court of common pleas. It was by an act of the General Assembly of Ohio, passed February 14, 1804, that the office of county commissioner was created as it stands today and the first commissioners of Greene county under this act were elected on the first Monday in April, 1804. The men elected were Jacob Smith, James Snoden and John Sterritt, and they held their first meeting for the transaction of the business of the county in the following June. The record of this meeting still exists in a little paper-back book which is very much browned by age, and is reproduced verbatim with its excessive capitalization, lack of punctuation, poor spelling and awkward grammar, as follows:

#### FIRST MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

"At the House of Peter Borders on Beaver Creek, on the Eleventh day of June, 1804—

Jacob Smith, James Snoden and John Sterritt, gent., produced a Certificate of their being duly Elected Commissioners of the County of Greene and also produced a Certificate under the hand and seal of James Barrett, Esq., one of the Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, that they had taken the oath required by Law, and there was court held by the Board of Commissioners for said County—and John Paul was appointed Clerk to the said Board of Commissioners—and then the said Commissioners cast lots for rank—and Jacob Smith drew for three years, John Sterritt for two and James Snoden for one.

The Listers of Taxable property in said County having failed to bring in their lists, for which cause the County business cannot be adjusted. Therefore it is considered that the Board will meet on the first Monday of next to lay the levy of said County. Ordered that the Clerk advertise for the listers of taxable property to forward their lists on or before said Monday, and for all those having claims against said County to attend the Court—

Ordered that Court be adjourned till the first Monday of July, next.

(Signed) JOHN PAUL, CLK.

Thus it was that the board of county commissioners began its career, and for more than a century it has served the interests of the county ably

and well, but the volume of its business in the early years bears a striking contrast to that of today. These early commissioners were busy men. The new court house must be built in Xenia and the construction of it was let to William Kendall on January 6, 1806, at the then considerable sum of three thousand three hundred and ninety-six dollars. The expenditure of such a sum necessitated most careful attention. But before the work could be begun on the projected building in Xenia, the public square had to be cleared, for it was then overgrown with timber, and William Tindall was allowed six dollars for performing the task. The new court house had to be carefully planned, not only with the intention of making it a serviceable building but also beautiful one in the eyes of the pioneer architects. Several "extras" were ordered, among which was a cupola which was gradually raised no less than three times by order of the commissioners until it reached the height of twenty-five feet. A cupola was not enough, for the board ordered that it must be surmounted by a ball of brass twenty-two inches in diameter and that a weathercock of brass in the shape of a fish should grace the topmost point of the spire. The cupola was not complete without a bell, and in 1819 Robert Nesbitt was "empowered to get a Bell for the use of the Court House from Cincinnati, of one hundred pounds weight & to be insured as a good and sound one of good and proper Bell Metal."

#### BOTHERSOME QUESTIONS ARISE.

Along with the building of the court house other bothersome questions continually arose. The listers would not turn in the property and business would be held up on that account. Some of the more liberty-loving pioneers persisted in feeling the strong arm of the law and often they were confined to the county bastile, which was improvised from one of the block houses near the temporary seat of justice at the house of Peter Borders. Oftentimes the prisoner escaped and the jail had to be repaired. Shackles and handcuffs were ordered from the village blacksmith, Joseph Hammell, who was as skillful in making fetters as he was at fashioning a plow share. Sometimes the commissioners were forced to give mercy to a violator of the law as is evinced by the following order of June 25, 1818:

Whereas, William Hodge has been committed to jail for a fine assessed by the Court of Common Pleas, in and for Greene County and the State of Ohio, for playing at cards, &c., and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Commissioners that he, the said William Hodge, is not able to pay said fines and cost, or any part of them, it is therefore ordered that the jailor discharge him.

(Signed) W. HAINES.

As soon as possible the commissioners began holding their meetings in the new county seat which soon began to take form in the forest, but since there was no court house yet at their disposal, they held their sessions in the

house of William Beatty, the owner of the most palatial house in Xenia in the days of the city's infancy. This was a two-story house, built of hewed logs. Heretofore the court of common pleas had been convened in this house, and its use as a court house brought forth an order from the commissioners allowing the owner "twenty-eight dollars for house rent for the years 1804 and 1805."

#### FIRST MEETING IN NEW COURT HOUSE.

The first recorded meeting of the commissioners in the new court house took place on March 4, 1811, and the pride which the county fathers had in their new court house and public square was certainly pardonable. They immediately set to work leveling the public ground by filling the natural depressions on its surface and in clearing off the brush. Evidently there were many of the townsmen who looked upon the public square as common property whereon they could establish their "wood piles," board kilns and the like, and this brought forth the following order from the board of commissioners:

Ordered that no board Kiln or any other nuisance Shall hereafter be put on the Publick Ground in the Town of Xenia by any citizen, and it is further ordered that all logs, boards, &c (except it is materials for the building of publick buildings) shall be immediately removed.

(Signed) THOMAS HUNTER.

A no less important personage than the famous Indian fighter, Simon Kenton, experienced some discomfiture from the determination of the county commissioners to make the public square a "thing of beauty," for on June 6, 1823, they requested "that the Auditor of this County give notice to James Galloway, Jr., that he have the house now occupied by Simon Kenton as a shop removed off the Publick Ground on or before the first of September, next."

To the commissioners a fence around the square seemed an absolute necessity to its beautification and at the same time it would prevent the milch cows, which ran at large through the streets, from browsing under the windows of the county temple of justice and would keep the pleasure-loving porkers of the neighborhood from making wallows within the public ground. Accordingly, James Galloway, Sr., was given the contract to build a fence about the public square for one hundred and seventy dollars.

Evidently the peace of the county officials in those early days was disturbed by "loafers" who to this day are seen around some court houses. Again, there seemed to be considerable trespassing on the public ground in those days, for the gates thereto were often left open. This state of affairs caused the commissioners to have spread upon their record that "the County

Auditor is hereby authorized to have the North gate into the Publick Ground nailed up and have the other two gates into the Publick Ground fixed with chains that the gates when opened will shut themselves; and also that he have pieces of plank nailed across inside the windows in the lower part of the Court House in order to prevent people from sitting in the windows."

#### SALE OF PART OF THE PUBLIC SQUARE.

Watchdogs of the county treasury were these early commissioners of Greene county, and oftentimes their zeal for economy in administration led them into difficulties. Luckily, however, nothing of serious consequence resulted from their zeal for eking out the county's money. Since in their judgment the public square was unnecessarily large for the county's purpose, they ordered William Beatty, the director of Xenia, to sell lots off the public ground on the second Friday of February, 1817. To facilitate the sale, five or six written advertisements were posted in public places in Greene county and the date, terms and nature of the sale were published in the *Liberty Bell* of Cincinnati. On the day of the sale, the directors sold parts of four in-lots. This enterprise had no bad results, but another project of the commissioners would have entailed difficulty had they succeeded in completing it. In 1835 they decided to plat the public square and lease parts of it for long terms. The platting was done and the sale of the leases was advertised. The complete story of this sale of parts of the public square is told in another chapter.

Money was dear and hard to get in those early days. When the sheriff was allowed seventy-five cents for furnishing the court and jury with firewood and eighteen and three-fourths cents for paper, the money had to be forthcoming. The commissioners rented their office to the pioneer attorney, William Alexander, for one dollar a month, since they had only occasional need of it. However, Alexander understood before he took possession that he must take good care of the room and that the clerk and commissioners could use the office without restraint.

There was another measure of economy taken by the board which seems amusing to us now, but was a very practical measure to them. After the first jail was erected in Xenia in 1804 and 1805 a means of providing heat for the prisoners, many of whom were imprisoned for debt, was necessary. Stoves at that early date were rare, but the progressive board appropriated forty dollars on November 5, 1805, to provide a stove for the debtor's room at the jail and James Collier, the sheriff, was appointed to procure it. In obedience to the order, he made a trip to Cincinnati and brought the stove by team from that young metropolis of the west and set it up for the comfort of the debtors. When the enforcement of the debtor law became lax, the stove was put to little use and on the approach of winter in 1822 the commissioners decided

to make the stove a revenue producer, and on December 22 of that year they issued the following order :

Ordered that John McPherson have the use of the Stove now in the Debtor's Room in the Jail of the County, for which he is to pay to the Treasurer of Greene County for the County's use, seventy-five cents per month during the time that he keeps it, and is to return said Stove and set it up, fit for use, in the Debtor's Room, aforesaid, at any time when required to do so by the Jailor of said County, after a sufficient time being allowed for the Stove to get Cool.

(Signed) JOHN STERRITT.

#### COUNTY FINANCE.

If the farmers of 1803 and 1804 had to pay as high a tax rate as the farmers of 1918, there would have been a far greater number of protests than there were before the board of equalization in 1917. Living was of the simplest kind one hundred years ago and if an associate judge or clerk of the court or any county official had been paid as much as the janitor of the court house in 1918 receives there would have been a taxpayers' league organized within a short time. The following orders of the commissioners in 1805 will give some idea of the salaries paid county officials in those early days :

Ordered that the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners be allowed thirty dollars for his services for the present year.

Ordered that the attorney prosecuting the pleas for the present year be allowed 20 dollars a term.

Ordered that the collectors of County Taxes be allowed ten per cent on all monies by them collected and paid over to the County Treasurer.

Ordered that the Treasurer be allowed three per cent for safe keeping and paying out all publick monies.

It is a long step from the day when corn sold for ten cents a bushel to the year 1918, when it is bringing two dollars a bushel, and there is about an equal disparity between taxes paid in 1803 and those of 1918. In the year of the organization of the county realty values were not taxed and personal property was not levied upon according to its value only in one instance. In the townships of Beaver creek, Cæsars creek and Sugarcreek horses were taxed at thirty cents a head, cows at twelve and one-half cents each and stallions were taxed according to the rate a season. The only attempt at taxing property *ad valorem* was in the levy upon houses, mills and the like, which were levied upon at fifty cents on each one hundred dollars. According to the act establishing Greene county which exempted all the inhabitants living in the newly erected county north of the eighth range from any tax for the purpose of erecting court houses and jails, the tax paid by the residents of Mad River township was reduced two cents on each horse and one cent on each cow, but the rate on houses and mills and stallions remained

the same. At their meeting on August 26, 1803, the associate judges reported taxes collected as follows:

BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP.		
241 horses at 30 cents each.....	\$72.90	
430 cows, at 12½ cents each.....	54.25	
Stallions, Mills and Houses.....	16.25	
	<hr/>	\$143.40
CAESARSCREEK TOWNSHIP.		
77 Horses, at 30 cents each.....	\$23.10	
154 Cows, at 12½ cents each.....	19.15	
Stallions .....	4.50	
	<hr/>	46.75
SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP.		
123 Horses, at 30 cents each.....	\$36.90	
192 Cows, at 12½ cents each.....	23.00	
1 house .....	1.60	
	<hr/>	60.90
MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP.		
243 Horses, at 28 cents each.....	\$67.76	
492 Cows, at 11½ cents each.....	56.81	
Stallions, Mills and Houses.....	18.42	
	<hr/>	143.99
Tavern Licenses .....	\$20.00	
Fines .....	53.00	
	<hr/>	73.00
Total.....		<hr/> <hr/> \$466.04

CONTRAST IN FISCAL AFFAIRS.

Since that early date in the county's history a wonderful change has taken place in the conduct of the county's fiscal affairs. Real estate was not taxed until several years after the erection of the county and then it was carried on by haphazard methods. At present an expert draftsman is platting the whole county in order that the taxation of realty values may rest with equity upon all landholders. Such a plan is absolutely necessary to an intelligent administration of the county's taxing system and Greene county is one of the few in the country which is thus perfecting its machinery for taxation. Moreover, there has been a great change in the wealth of the county since the early days of its existence. In 1917 Greene county was worth, as ascertained from the returns of the assessors, \$48,269,640, of which \$29,678,840 was the value of the real property and \$18,590,800 the value

of the personal property. On this property thus valued there was levied taxes amounting to \$586,240.44, which combined with the special taxes, the dog taxes and the delinquents, totals \$632,260.03, the grand total of the levy of 1917. This formidable sum bears a striking contrast to the modest sum of \$466.04 raised in 1803, although the former does not represent as much of a burden upon the taxpayers as the latter amount which was paid one hundred and fourteen years ago. Many things are taxed today which were not on the duplicate of years ago and on the other hand there are hundreds of outlets for the county's money which were unknown to our grandfathers. It would be hard to imagine the commissioners of the twenties appropriating twenty dollars for canna beds for the lawn of the court house as the commissioners of 1917 did, and the commissioners of that early decade would have had nervous prostration had the county officials asked them to put an electric fan in the court house for the comfort of the county's servants on the hot summer days. The roads they made in those days were little more than paths cut out through the forest with the stumps of the trees sticking up in the center of the "thoroughfare" to the confusion and discomfort of the traffic, and the expenditure of \$68,327.03 for the roads of the county as was noted in 1917 would have been as nearly within the conception of the early commissioners as an aeroplane. Quagmires gave the hogs an opportunity to wallow almost at the door of the court house, yet the county fathers of those early days would have looked with askance at such an unheard-of expenditure as \$5,198.36 for ditches as was noted in 1917. Even the expenditure for outdoor relief in this latter year far exceeded the first entire levy of the county in 1803, and our forefathers were known far and wide for their charity and hospitality.

Then what did our forefathers spend the money of Greene county for during their incumbency of office? The following is the disposition of the levy for Greene county for 1804, as shown by a report dated August 26, 1803:

To the Commissioners for selecting a place for the seat of justice.....	\$25.00
To James Snoden for ballot boxes.....	2.00
To the lister of taxable property of Beavercreek township.....	18.75
To ditto of Sugarcreek township.....	7.90
To ditto of Mad River township.....	12.70
To the Grand Jury of August term.....	19.55
To James Barrett and Benj. Whiteman.....	12.00
To William Maxwell .....	4.50
To John Paul for attending as Clerk 2 days and making a list for Sheriff.....	12.00
To the Sheriff for ex-officio services.....	20.00
To the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas.....	20.00
To the Grand Jury for term of Supreme Court.....	10.91
To Grand Jury for December Term.....	8.07½
To the attorney prosecuting for the State at August Term of Common Pleas.....	30.00
To ditto October Term of Supreme Court.....	20.00



To ditto December Term of Common Pleas.....	20.00
To Sheriff for summoning Grand Jury for August Term.....	1.50
To ditto October Term of Supreme Court.....	2.00
To ditto December term of Common Pleas.....	2.50
To Jacob Shingledecker for repairs done to the Jail.....	9.50
To Joseph Vance for carrying election returns of Sugarcreek township to Cincinnati	6.00
To David Huston for ditto, Beaver creek township.....	6.00
Probable amount of acts not exhibited.....	22.00
Collectors' and Treasurer's per cent and Depositum.....	173.55½
	\$466.04

## SIMPLE NEEDS OF THE EARLY SETTLERS.

The wants of the early county administration were simple. No broad county roadways demanded the floating of a bond issue. Instead of having to expend a considerable amount for a modern heating plant, the sheriff was ordered to provide the court with firewood which crackled in the fireplace in the house of Peter Borders or that of William Beatty in Xenia. Electricity was an unheard-of plaything and when the county officer worked at night, he used the tallow candle. Instead of going about in an automobile, the sheriff rode horseback when he summoned the grand juries.

But now the county spends over a half million dollars annually. This money is spent in a hundred different ways in as many varying sums. Many officials are employed by the county to attend to its affairs and their salaries amount to thousands of dollars annually. To meet these expenses county taxes are levied and in each county in Ohio taxes are divided into five general funds: State, county, school, township and corporation. The state tax is divided into four funds—sinking, university, common-school and state highway. The county tax is divided into seventeen funds—county, infirmary, children's home, bridge, soldiers' relief, judicial, mothers' pensions, blind, election, county ditch, tuberculosis hospital, county roads, library, county highway, and sinking fund. The township tax is divided into seven funds—general, poor, roads, bridge, cemetery, ditch and miscellaneous. The corporation tax is divided into eight funds—general, safety, service, health, library, cemetery, debt and sinking. Summing up the different funds it is seen that they are thirty-two in number. In the face of the tremendous amount of labor entailed in collecting this tax, the county being the agency for the collection, it is difficult to conceive of one man, like John Paul, doing the work of auditor, clerk and recorder.

Ohio enjoys one of the lowest tax rates in the Union and its average tax of less than a dollar and a half on the hundred dollars is considerably less than half of the rate paid by the taxpayers of Indiana. The low rate in Ohio has been in effect since Governor Harmon forced the Smith one-per cent law through the General Assembly. The tax in Ohio can not legally

be more than a dollar and a half on the one hundred dollars except for emergencies. Before the present taxing system went into operation, rates in Greene county were practically twice what they are today, the reduction in the rate being due to the listing of property at its full value.

#### EXPENDITURES COMMENSURATE WITH WEALTH.

Residents of the county might feel considerable agitation at the annual expenditure by the county of a half million dollars, but people have more money today than they had over a hundred years ago and they spend it. Even the man with a very modest income spends more money annually in attending the moving picture shows than his grandfather required to supply clothing for the entire family during the same length of time. But a county is a living, breathing organism and Greene county is now composed of thirty-thousand smaller living, breathing organisms. Just as individuals are spending more money today than they ever did before, so is it with the county. The county is but a reflex of the people of which it is composed and no one complains if it spends money. If a man is worth fifty million he could build a beautiful home like that of the Greene County Children's Home, and such a sum is Greene county worth. Thus it has the right to spend money and spends it like a millionaire.

Since the county is but a reflex of its residents, it has the right to contract debts, and it is obligated to pay them just as the humblest citizen within its borders is obliged to pay his debts. To say that a county is in debt two hundred thousand dollars or twice as much is to assume that it has met with an unusual expenditure, such as, the building of a court house, a jail or macadam or gravel roads, which have demanded the outlay of thousands of dollars. In Ohio, as in most other states, many improvements of a public nature are paid for by an assessment levied against the citizens benefited by the improvement in question. For instance, the digging of a county ditch or the building of a road is met wholly or in part by direct assessment on the property owners affected by the improvement. In the case of some kinds of roads (inter-county) the expense is pro-rated in four ways: the state, county, township and the abutting property owners. The county's part is generally considerable and it must meet the excess in its wonted expenditure by a bond issue.

At present Greene county has a debt of approximately four hundred thousand dollars, about half of which arose from the construction of the new court house. At first glance this sum seems quite large, but in reality it is a comparatively small amount when compared with the total wealth of the county. With a debt of \$400,000 and wealth amounting to approximately \$50,000,000, Greene county is just in the same position as the farmer of the

county who has a fifty-thousand-dollar farm and has a four-hundred-dollar mortgage on it.

On the other hand the county can not pay this debt with the ease that might be imagined. The ordinary expenses of the county, commonly known as the "running" expenses, are met month by month and year by year from the ordinary receipts of taxes levied for that purpose. In the past year in Greene county much improvement has been made in county ditches and roads and the like, and this unusual expenditure resulted in the issuing of bonds to the amount of \$100,628.90. It should be noted at this point that this year the county paid out \$82,783.29 on its entire indebtedness.

#### PRESENT ERA OF PROSPERITY.

The prosperity of the county may be indicated in a number of ways. In a county the size of Greene, with a county seat the size of Xenia, and with few of the conditions which confront counties and cities of larger size, this county bears little indication of poverty and destitution, there being spent by the county during 1917 only five hundred and seventy dollars for outdoor relief to the poor. It is probable, since the county is now making great preparations toward entering with all its resources and strength into the great World War, the long season of prosperity may decline somewhat. Many of the young men of the county have gone into the national service; three Liberty loans have been floated in Greene county, all of which have been oversubscribed. In addition to these, the county has subscribed more than its quota to the Red Cross and Young Men's Christian Association funds. But withal every one seems to be prosperous and even the present high prices have not affected the general prosperity of the people of the county thus far. It is true that nearly every commodity costs more in 1918 than it ever did before, but on the other hand better wages are being paid than ever before. Hundreds of workmen in Xenia are receiving from seventy-five to one hundred dollars a month. Farmers are getting more than double the amount for their products than formerly. In 1917 hogs were selling for twenty dollars a hundred weight. For their wheat crop for the past (1917) season alone, many farmers received half the cost price of their farms. There is no reason why the farmers should not be prosperous, and with bumper crops there will be more mortgages paid off within the present fiscal year than in any other year in the history of the county.

The county recorder keeps a large and pretentious looking volume on the counter which gives the day-by-day transactions of his office. Here may be seen the record of the mortgages filed and cancelled day by day throughout the year, transfers of property, deeds filed for record, and a number of other things, all of which are concerned with property exchanges. Here,

for instance, may be seen an indication of the amount that the people of Greene county saved last year: Cancellation of 323 mortgages on 349 city, town and village lots to the amount of \$244,672, and of 361 farm mortgages covering 22,770 acres in the amount of \$876,838, and of 61 mortgages on lands within corporate limits covering 65 acres to the amount of \$50,427, all of which makes a total of \$1,171,937. This means that during the year closing June 30, 1917, the people of Greene county paid off debts in the form of mortgages amounting to over a million dollars. On the other hand, during the same period, new mortgages somewhat in excess of this amount were filed for record. Villages, towns and cities reported 311 mortgages on 697 lots, totalling \$381,068; lands within corporate limits, 55 mortgages, covering 70 acres and totalling \$57,451; farm mortgages on 22,833 acres, totaling \$1,010,089; the aggregate amount on all mortgages filed during the year ending June 30, 1917, was \$1,448,608. This on the face of it would make it appear that the county was heavily mortgaged, but the figures when taken in comparison with the wealth of the county—about \$50,000,000—show that the mortgage debt of the county is quite small. The average price per acre of farm lands sold in this period was approximately \$116, as computed from the transfers of agricultural lands; hence the price of the land mortgaged was about \$2,648,628. In order to place these figures in another light for comparison, they are appended in tabular form:

	<i>New Mortgages.</i>			<i>Cancelled Mortgages.</i>		
	No.	Acres.	Amount.	No.	Acres.	Amount.
Farms -----	343	22,833	\$1,010,089	391	22,770	\$ 876,838
Land in corporate limits	55	70	57,451	61	65	50,427
City, town and village lots -----	311	----	381,068	323	----	244,672
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	709	22,903	\$1,448,608	745	22,835	\$1,171,937

<i>Deeds.</i>				
	No.	Acres.	Amount.	Average Price per Acre.
Farms -----	134	6,419	\$744,299	\$115.95
Land in corporate limits	22	29	24,153	832.17
City, town and village lots -----	117	----	134,701	-----
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	273	6,448	\$903,153	

The above table shows a total of only 273 deeds filed, but there were 770 deeds (594 town lots and 16,273 acres of farm land and land within corporate limits) filed in which there were no considerations stated and they

come under the head of "dollar" considerations, the dollar covering the cost of the transfer. It will be seen that practically seven-tenths of the deeds filed in the county do not state the consideration involved in the transfer and it is becoming the custom of real estate men and many other purchasers of property to make no record of the consideration. This is done for various reasons, but principally for the reason that the purchaser does not desire the public to know what he paid for the property.

The recorder's records also show that 1,259 acres of farm land and eighteen town lots were leased during the year ending June 30, 1917, the amount of consideration for these leases being \$14,673.

#### POPULATION STATISTICS.

There is no report on record of the number of people in Greene county in 1803 when it was organized, hence there is no way by which we can determine the exact number of residents here at that time. We do know from totals of the voters given in the poll books of the election of that year that there were four hundred and thirty-nine voters in Greene county in 1803. Since Greene county then included what is now Champaign and Clark counties and extended to the northern boundary of the state, we can not obtain even the number of voters in what is now properly this county. The county first figured in the federal census of 1810, but its population of 5,870 in that year included all the inhabitants living within the present limits of the county with all those then residing in the small part of what became Clark county when the latter was organized in 1817.

The organization of the county was the signal for the influx of settlers, but the great bulk of emigrants did not come until after the danger from the Indians subsided after the War of 1812. The population by the return for 1820 is shown to have doubled. These settlers came chiefly from Pennsylvania and Virginia after they had spent a few years in Kentucky, just as did John Paul, Joseph C. Vance, John Wilson, General Whiteman, David Laughead and James Galloway, Sr.

The only detailed census reports for the county that the historian has been able to secure begin in 1840, and these immediately follow. Earlier returns for the county from the federal census returns show the number of people in the county from 1810 to 1840; for 1810, 5,870; 1820, 10,521; and for 1830, 14,801. Hence, in twenty years, the population of the county increased 8,131, which is a much greater increase than that between any other two decades in the history of the county.

It will be noticed in the following census report that the population of the part of Clifton and Yellow Springs in Miami township; Bowersville, in Jefferson township; Fairfield and Osborn, in Bath township; Spring Valley,

in Spring Valley township; Bellbrook, in Sugarcreek township; Xenia, in Xenia township, and Cedarville, in Cedarville township, are in some instances not listed separately. In those cases the population of these towns is included in the township in which they respectively lie. The population of Cedarville, Jefferson, New Jasper and Spring Valley townships were not listed in 1840 and 1850 because they were not yet erected into townships and the population of these is included in the existing townships.

	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870	1860	1850	1840
Bath Township-----	1213	1255	1184	1557	1648	2713	2079	1702
Fairfield -----	292	312	310	380	397	----	----	----
Osborn -----	866	948	713	656	639	----	----	----
Beavercreek Town-								
ship -----	1959	2070	2198	2470	2289	2230	2059	1755
Cæsarscreek Town-								
ship -----	915	1039	1057	1174	1114	1183	1870	1738
Cedarville Township	1236	1278	1006	1521	1608	1570	----	----
Cedarville -----	1059	1189	1355	1181	753	687	----	----
Jefferson Township-	966	1158	1529	1643	1277	1280	----	----
Bowersville ----	297	370	----	----	----	----	----	----
Miami Township---	853	933	888	1067	1096	994	1865	1230
Part of Clifton--	204	204	230	289	----	280	----	----
Yellow Springs--	1360	1371	1375	1377	1435	1309	----	----
New Jasper Township	845	874	918	1013	1084	893	----	----
Ross Township ----	1011	1141	1230	1335	1076	1212	1369	1336
Silvercreek Township	964	1109	1213	1278	1169	1196	2565	2444
Jamestown ----	1133	1205	1104	877	532	480	----	----
Spring Valley Town-								
ship -----	912	938	963	1163	1113	1641	----	----
Spring Valley---	443	522	538	376	1290	----	----	----
Sugarcreek Township	958	1016	947	1278	1169	1635	3082	2379
Bellbrook -----	238	352	350	425	369	----	----	----
Xenia Township----	3303	3633	3311	3376	2254	6977	4032	3517
Xenia -----	8706	8696	7301	7026	6377	----	3024	1406
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	29733	31613	29820	30013	28038	26290	21945	17507

FURTHER POPULATION STATISTICS.

There are more colored people in Greene county in proportion to its population than in any other county in Ohio. The federal census of 1910 returned a total population of 29,733 for the county, of which number 3,970 were colored. This shows that the colored population is 13.4 per cent. of

the total population. Of the 3,970 colored people, 2,465 are listed as black and 1,505 as mulattos. As regards sex the colored population is divided, 1,197 male and 1,973 female.

The 1910 census returned 107 farms, totalling 5,200 acres, which were owned and operated by colored farmers. These 107 farms were valued at \$518,230; the farm buildings were valued at \$141,000. There can be no question that the presence of Wilberforce University has been a potent factor in the life of the colored people of the county. This institution has been providing practical courses in agriculture, and the results of this work are being shown in the county already.

A glance at the census totals from 1840 to 1910 reveals some interesting facts. The greatest number of residents Greene county ever had was 31,613 in 1900, the very slight gain of 793 over the number in 1890. The total in 1900 was more nearly approached in 1880, but curiously enough the population decreased in 1890. It is noticeable that the population of the villages has not decreased so markedly as that of the rural districts. The most striking growth of any village has been that of Jamestown, the population of which in 1860 was 480 and by 1900 had increased to 1205. There has been a steady increase of population in Xenia until it numbered 8,706 in 1910, which indicates a centralization of the population in the county seat. Obviously, Greene county, like many others, illustrates the movement of the rural population to the urban centers. In 1910 the total seems to presage a decrease in the county's population, but this is not a disaster by any means, even though the thinkers of a century ago preached such a doctrine. In one sense it is a mark of progress; for, as a rule, a high increase in population is accompanied by a proportionately high death rate and an inversely proportional lowering of the standard of living. This country is yet new, for one hundred years in the history of a community is no more than a decade in the life of an individual. American communities, like "Topsy," have "jes' growed," and just now an adaptation is going on. This adaptation is in progress in Greene county, which, if nothing untoward occurs, will result in the highest welfare of all.

## CHAPTER VI.

### PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF GREENE COUNTY.

#### COURT HOUSES.

There have been three court houses erected in Greene county, the first in 1809, the second in 1843, the third in 1902. During the first six years of the county's history the sessions of the local courts were held in private houses, while the little county business which was transacted during these few years by the various county officials was probably transacted in their respective homes. All the records of the clerk, auditor, recorder and sheriff might have been carried around in the arms of these officials, and, as a matter of fact, each of these officials might easily have carried all the records of the first six years into the new court house when it was ready for occupancy in 1809.

But it is necessary to go back to 1803 to get at the beginning of the court-house history of the county. When the act providing for the organization of the county was being prepared some provision had to be made for the first meeting of the courts, and the author of the bill, William Maxwell, then a resident of what later became a part of Greene county, knew, of course, of the house of one Owen Davis, at the time occupied by a tenant by the name of Peter Borders, and that it was about as centrally located in the proposed new county as any other. Accordingly this log cabin was designated as the meeting place for the first court of the county, thereby becoming for all legal purposes the first court house of the county.

This cabin has long since disappeared, but fortunately there has been preserved a fairly definite description of this first gathering place of the officials of Greene county. The cabin was erected in 1799 by Benjamin Whiteman and stood in Beavercreek township, about five miles west of Xenia, two hundred yards east of Beaver creek, a short distance south of the rude log mill of Davis, and, to more definitely locate it for the present generation, it was about a quarter of a mile south of the present village of Alpha.

#### DESCRIPTION OF ANCIENT TEMPLE OF JUSTICE.

And what kind of a log cabin was this where the first official business of Greene county was transacted? It was about twenty-five feet square,



with one room below and an attic above which was reached by a ladder through a hole in the ceiling. The building was constructed of burr-oak logs, hewed on two sides, with a floor of the same material, the logs for the floor being smoothed with an adz to make them comparatively level. This sort of a floor certainly would have had the merit of being substantial, whatever other imperfections it may have had. The roof was made of clapboards, tied in place with long poles running the full length of the roof, such roofs being the only kind then in use. The whole structure was put together without the use of a single nail, and it may be said that it was just as substantially put together as many of the buildings of the present day. This building had but one door, this being on the east side near the north end, and opposite to this one door was the one window. It is true that there was a small hole in the south side of the cabin, but it was more for ventilation than light, and was not intended to serve any other purpose than as a place for the escape of the smoke when it became too thick in the room. The south side of the large room was largely filled with a huge fireplace such as was to be found in all the early log cabins of the county. The chimney of the fireplace was built on the outside, as was usually the case, the first eight feet of the chimney being built of small logs, lined with stones, the upper part of the chimney being made of sticks well plastered with clay.

This was the building where the first court in Greene county was held on May 10, 1803. The building had been erected by Benjamin Whiteman in 1799, as before stated, and by him sold to his father-in-law, Owen Davis, the latter having rented it to Peter Borders sometime before 1803. Maxwell, who introduced the bill for the organization of the county, knew, of course, of the size of the building and judged that it would be the best, all things considered, which could be found within the limits of the proposed county for a temporary meeting place for the courts. At the time the court met there in the spring of 1803 Borders, the tenant, seemed to have had an ample supply of ardent spirits of various degrees of intoxicating potency on hand. At least, he had a sufficient amount on hand to engender enough fighting to provide several cases for the court which met within the building.

#### BUILDING STILL STANDING IN 1846.

A reference to the accompanying cut shows this primitive seat of justice, the cut being a reproduction of a pen drawing by Howe made for that historian's "Historical Collections" in 1846. The cabin was still standing at that time and Howe made a special trip out to Beaver creek to make the sketch. It will be noticed that there is an old-fashioned well-sweep a short distance from the house, but this was probably not there in 1803. At one corner of the building was tied a large pet black bear, a plaything for the

children not uncommon in those days. Howe's cut also shows the small log building, about ten by twelve feet, which stood a few rods northeast of the house, built as a smoke house, and used as the grand jury room when that august body first "sat on the body of Greene county." It was in this smaller building that the petit juries retired to consider the guilt or innocence of alleged violators of the law. About two hundred yards from this cabin, dwelling house and court house, stood the log blockhouse which served as the first county jail, described later in this chapter.

It was in this house in Beavercreek township that all the sessions of the courts were held during 1803 and 1804, and up until November 15 of the latter year. The chapter on County Organization recites in detail the steps taken to establish the county seat at Xenia and it is not necessary to repeat the facts in the matter in this connection. Suffice it to say that the site was selected in the fall of 1803, but that it was not until the summer of 1804 that any attempt was made to build a house of any kind on the site. Of course, it was not supposed that a court house could be built at once, and, pending the construction of a temple of justice, it was presumed that some private residence would be erected which might serve as a temporary meeting place for the courts.

#### FIRST COURT HELD AT XENIA.

The summer of 1804 saw two dwelling sites being cleared on the site of the future county seat, and presently two log cabins began to rear their walls on the two respective sites. One of these enterprising settlers was William Beatty, the other was Rev. James Towler. The Beatty house, a two-story log structure, designed as a combined dwelling house, public tavern and temporary court house, stood on lot 13, on Main street (then called Chillicothe street), opposite the present court house, and on the same lot now occupied by the fruit and confectionery store of Kelle Ammer, the building now being owned by C. P. Dowling. The Towler house, erected by Frederick Bonner, the first carpenter in the village, stood on South Detroit street, the site now being occupied by H. H. Eavey's wholesale house.

These two houses were in the course of construction at the same time, and it seems that there was a race to see which one would be first completed. It was the understanding that the first one completed would have the honor of housing the court until such a time as the county would have a court house erected. Whether the race was to the swift or not is not known, but the fact remains that the tavern keeper succeeded in getting his house finished before the preacher. It is a matter of tradition, no documentary evidence having been found to substantiate the statement, that Beatty had taken the foresight to rent the upper room of his tavern to the county

commissioners for a court room before he had the building completed. Be that as it may, he rented the room for this purpose, and here in the second story of this tavern of Beatty the first court in Xenia convened on November 15, 1804. He had opened his house for the reception of wayfarers on October 1, and it was in his tavern that all of the early settlers spent their first night in the present city of Xenia.

No picture of any kind of this tavern is known to be in existence, but it has been described by pioneers who saw it standing many years after the village was laid out. Its greatest length was from east to west, with its west end about forty-five feet east of the southeast corner of Detroit and Main streets, the site of the present Xenia National Bank. It is apparent that the whole of the second floor was used for county purposes, although there is nothing to indicate as much. The court room itself was in the west room of the second story, and it is very probable that the remainder of the floor was used for the other offices of the county officials. This second floor of the Beatty tavern remained the headquarters of the county's official life from November 15, 1804, to August 14, 1809, a period of nearly five years. The new court house in the public square was then ready for occupancy and the business of the county was transferred to its new quarters.

#### FIRST COURT HOUSE.

The first building erected by the county as a court house stood within the present public square, but not in the middle of the square as might be imagined. It stood in the southwestern corner of the square. When the county commissioners got ready to build in the fore part of 1806, the square was completely covered with a dense growth of native forest trees and their first step was the letting of a contract to William Tindall to clear off a large enough tract to accommodate the court house. For this work Tindall was allowed the sum of six dollars, and the inference is that he either took the timber as part payment for his work or that he did not value his services very highly.

The contract for the first court house was let on January 6, 1806, to William Kendall in the sum of \$3,396, the commissioners at that time being James Snoden, John McClain and David Huston. The proposed building was to be of brick, forty feet square, twenty-eight feet in height, with a hipped roof, and cupola in the middle. The cupola, which was the distinguishing feature of all the early court houses in Ohio, was at first designed to be fifteen feet high and ten feet in diameter, but the height was eventually increased to twenty-five feet. The building faced Main street, standing sixty-two feet from the street, with its principal entrance on the south side. As originally designed the building had a door on the west (Detroit street) side,

but for some reason this proposed entrance was bricked up before the building was finally completed.

The contractor began work in 1806, but evidently must have been either a very slow workman or was hindered in some way during the progress of construction. It was not until three years later that he reported the building about done. The commissioners were getting impatient at the delay and on July 1, 1809, appointed James Miller and Matthew Dinsmore, disinterested parties, who, with a third party of their own selection, were to examine the building and report as to its condition. They reported that the building in the main was satisfactory, but that some of the plastering was not up to specifications. Kendall proceeded to satisfy the commissioners on this score, and on the 14th of the following month the building was formally accepted by the commissioners as completed. There were some parts of the building which did not meet with their entire approval, while on the other hand, other parts were even better than the specifications called for. Although there is no record as to when the various county officials moved into the new court house, it is fair to presume that they at once took possession. The first meeting of the court of common pleas in the new court room was on September 26, 1809.

#### OTHER COUNTY OFFICE BUILDINGS.

It seems queer that within five years from the time the first court house was completed it was deemed necessary to build additional quarters for county officials. Such however was the case, whatever the cause therefor may have been. The records of the commissioners state that on June 4, 1814, the board passed a resolution ordering the erection on the public square of a building for the use of the clerk of the court of common pleas and the county commissioners. The contract for the building was let on July 4, 1814, to David Douglass for the sum of \$749.50. This structure was a small, one-story, brick building, and stood about fifty feet north of Main street and between the court house and Greene street. It was ready to be turned over to the county on September 4, 1815, at which time it was accepted by the commissioners. A small porch, known in those days by the high sounding name of "piazza," was built along the front of this little building in 1820 by John Harbison. This building was razed shortly after the office building of 1832 was erected.

The second office building of the county, a much more pretentious structure, and what some taxpayers chose to call a court house, was provided for in 1832. It would have seemed that if the county was so imperatively in need of room at that time a new court house would have been erected, but at this late day, so far removed from the scenes of those days, it is impos-

sible to follow the vagaries of the county commissioners. At any rate on May 1, 1832, the commissioners entered into a contract with Daniel Lewis for the erection of what were termed "public offices." The building, a brick structure, was erected in front of the office building of 1814, east of the court house, its front line being flush with Main street, and its east end twenty-two and a half feet from the west side of Greene street. It was sixty-three feet long and twenty-two feet wide, its length being from east to west. It had two stories and contained six rooms, three on each floor. These six rooms were occupied as follows: First floor—west room, clerk of the court of common pleas; middle room, auditor; east room, treasurer; second floor—west room, clerk of the supreme court; middle room, recorder, east room, sheriff.

One is left to wonder what use was made of the court house proper. This new office building housed all the county officials except the county commissioners, although the judge, when present, probably had his office in the court house. It would have seemed that the clerk of the common pleas court, at least, would have remained in the court house, but even he was transferred to the new building. The inference is that the court house was not a very satisfactory building, but the commissioners' records do not afford any explanation of the seemingly queer situation. Furthermore, to add to the humorous situation, the county commissioners had but fairly got the officials ensconced in the new building when they began preparations for erecting a magnificent new court house. According to the best evidence the structure of 1832 was demolished in 1842, after it had been occupied only nine years. It had cost the county \$2,100 to erect the building. It seems that the original contractor, Daniel Lewis, associated three other men—John H. Edsal, and Henry and John Barnes—with him in the erection of the building.

#### SECOND COURT HOUSE.

The court house completed in 1809, as has been shown, was not at all satisfactory. After 1833 practically all of the county business was transacted in the office building completed in that year, but this was not altogether a satisfactory arrangement. In fact, from the time the county officials moved out of the court house in 1833, there had been a sporadic agitation for a new court house, but it was not until 1841 that the agitation resulted in definite action on the part of the county commissioners. On October 9, 1841, the commissioners let the contract for the second court house, the contract being let in two parts: John M. Rader and William C. Robinson, stone and brick work; A. E. Turnbull, carpenter work and finishing, including the plastering, and the installation of fire-proof safes. Owing to the fact that

the records of the commissioners for this year are missing the exact cost of their second court house is not known. Rader and Robinson agreed to do the brick and stone work for \$4,864; the bid of Turnbull was \$6,172; the stone columns cost \$458.66, this being apart from the bid of Rader and Robinson. Walter King, the architect, was paid \$35 for the plans and specifications.

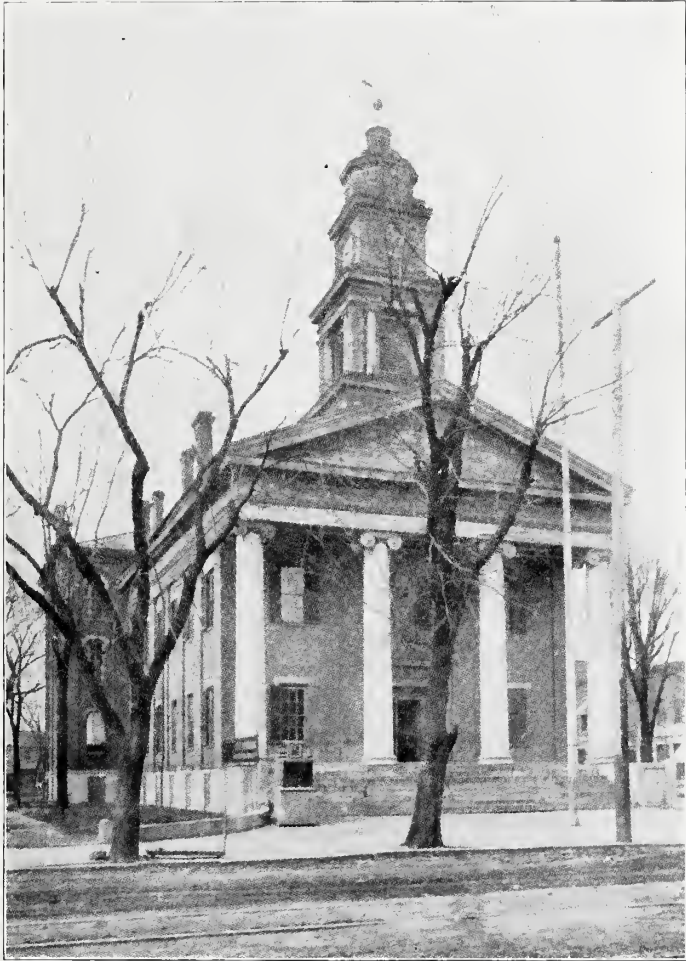
The old court house was sold at public auction to John Culters and brought only \$199, which was probably all it was worth, judging from the fact that county officials would not live in it. The purchaser agreed to have it removed by March 1, 1842. The construction of the new court house was hurried by the contractors and by November 24, 1843, it was completed and accepted by the commissioners. A bell was installed at a cost of two hundred dollars and a clock in the cupola added one hundred dollars more to the total cost of the building. This building with a few minor interior improvements remained as built in 1843 until 1875.

A study of the commissioners' records reveals a few interesting facts concerning the court house between 1843 and 1875. On November 24, 1855, the board entered into an agreement with Greaves & Stutsman, "gass fitters," to pipe the building for gas. This was, of course, artificial gas, which had just been introduced in Xenia. The contract called for the piping and installation of the necessary fixtures to light the "offices, halls and isles" of the court house, for which the commissioners agreed to pay the gas fitters the sum of \$162.25.

It might be mentioned here that the famous iron fence around the public square, which will be remembered by all the older generation of the county, was contracted for on December 13, 1856. The contract was let to Horton & Macy, for \$2.96 a running foot, the posts to cost \$5.50 each, the fence to be completed by August 1, 1857. It is not certain how much fence was originally contracted for, the record stating that it was intended to enclose only a part of the public square. When the contractors were paid for the fence, the account shows that they had erected five hundred and two feet of fence and put in forty-two posts, the total cost to the county being \$1,716.92. It was completed sometime in the spring of 1858, the date not being given, although it was stated that the fence was paid for out of the county's railroad dividends. The complete record of this fence may be seen in the commissioners' record, Vol. VII, pp. 421-422. This fence was later extended to include the entire square, and remained in place until the commissioners by a resolution dated July 6, 1891, ordered the iron part removed and part of it used around the jail lot and the remainder at the county infirmary where it is still doing serviceable duty in 1918. The fence proper was set in a solid stone base, about two feet high, and after the fence was removed it



HOUSE OF OWEN DAVIS, BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP, WHERE THE FIRST COURT WAS HELD.



OLD COURT HOUSE, 1846-1901.





was planned to allow the stone to remain in place, the idea being that it would protect the court house lawn and at the same time give a sense of completeness to the public square. But it was soon found that the stone curbing, if it may be so called, was an extremely attractive loafing place in the summer, and there seemed to be no way of getting rid of the scores and even at times hundreds of loafers who daily congregated along the stone wall. Finally, when the present court house was built, the commissioners removed the wall, thus ending the history of the famous iron fence which had stood through two generations of the life of Greene county.

#### ADDITION OF 1875.

The court house completed in 1843 received its first and only addition in 1875. However, an effort had been made as early as 1867 to build an addition to the court house, but for some reason, not disclosed in the commissioners' records, the effort came to naught. The only reference to the abortive effort of 1867 is found in the agreement made April 3, 1867, between the county commissioners and the firm of Blackburn & Koehler, architects of Cleveland, Ohio, who were employed on that date to provide the plans and specifications for the new county infirmary. After reciting the compensation to be allowed the architects for their work in connection with the infirmary, the agreement goes on to say that the commissioners furthermore agree to "pay the said architects three per centum of the cost of plans and specifications for a proposed addition to the court house in case the said addition is built while the infirmary is in course of construction." Evidently nothing was done at this time toward building such an addition, but it is evident that the project was being seriously considered.

The crowded condition of the court house, however, became so acute by the spring of 1875 that something had to be done, and the commissioners, acting under the provisions of the legislative act of April 3, 1868, ordered an addition to the court house on March 31, 1875. The act of 1868 did not specifically mention Greene or any other county in the state, but was a general act which allowed county commissioners to make additions to public buildings under their jurisdiction. The plans and specifications for the addition adopted on April 21, 1875, provided for a brick addition, thirty-seven by seventy-five feet, two stories in height, the same to be erected to the rear and contiguous to the court house. The contract was let on May 5, 1875, in ten separate parts and this makes it a difficult matter to figure up the total cost of the addition. The only one of the ten separate bids, which gave a total, was that of Drees & Thornhill, who bid in the carpenter work at \$7,878. The other bids were let by piece, by the yard, or the perch, etc. The

heating plant was a separate contract, let on May 11, and went to Brooks, Light & Co., of Dayton, in the sum of \$2,195. The furniture contract was bid in by Drees & Thornhill on November 15, 1875, as follows: Clerk's office, \$354.14; probate judge, \$411.34; recorder, \$422.04; auditor, \$457.07. As near as can be figured from the separate payments made to the various contractors the addition cost about \$20,000.

THE PRESENT COURT HOUSE.

The history of the present beautiful court house goes back several years before it was actually erected. On September 27, 1883, a committee appointed by the county commissioners to examine the court house, reported that it was in a bad shape and needed some very important improvements to make it safe. About the middle of the previous month the roof over the court room had fallen in and there were many in the county who thought that the county should build a new court house at once rather than go to the expense of repairing the old building. It was necessary, however, to fix the old building temporarily, pending an election on the matter, and Frank Smith was given a contract at \$540 to repair the roof and the plaster in the court room. On August 24, 1883, the commissioners decided to call for a vote on the question of erecting a new court house, asking the taxpayers for permission to tax them \$125,000 for a new building. It was to give the public at large an idea of the condition of the old building that the committee just mentioned made a report on the advisability of a new building on September 27, 1883.

VOTE OF 1883 ON NEW COURT HOUSE.

The county papers during the fall of 1883 argued in favor of the new building and called on the taxpayers to vote for it. The vote was taken at the regular fall election on October 9, but it is quite evident that the sentiment of the people was against the project. There was not a single township in the county that favored the building, the city of Xenia being the only precinct in the county to cast its vote of a new building. The vote by townships was as follows:

	For	Against		For	Against
Bath .....	156	382	Ross .....	20	295
Beavercreek .....	75	377	Silvercreek .....	105	420
Caesarscreek .....	18	238	Springvalley .....	72	275
Cedarville .....	116	393	Sugarcreek .....	34	317
New Jasper .....	49	199	Xenia township .....	245	325
Jefferson .....	104	208	Xenia city .....	1,122	298
Miami .....	71	466		—	—
			Total .....	2,198	4,184
			Majority against .....		1,986

This overwhelming vote against the new court house stopped all the agitation for the time being in regard to a new building and it was seventeen years before the question was again brought to the front. Little of interest concerning the court house is found in the records during these years, 1883-1900. A short time before the agitation of 1883, the commissioners had installed the first telephone in the building under an order dated June 6, 1881. On December 4, 1883, the commissioners ordered telephone "boxes" placed in the auditor's, clerk's and treasurer's offices, for the use of which the county agreed to pay eight dollars per month. The first telephone of 1881 was ordered installed in the clerk's office, and the second order seems to indicate that it was not until two years later that the first telephone was actually installed.

The first electric lights in the building were installed pursuant to an order of the commissioners dated November 8, 1890. Two lights were ordered for both the auditor and treasurer, the wiring and fixtures to cost twenty-five dollars, and the county to pay one dollar and fifty cents for each light per month. The contract for the "lamps," as they were called, was with the Xenia Gaslight and Coke Company.

BUILDING OF PRESENT COURT HOUSE.

The first definite step toward the erection of the present building followed the report of J. W. Knaub, the chief inspector of the state under the department of the Inspection of Factories and Shops. His report, dated January 26, 1900, was filed with the commissioners on January 31, 1900. The report absolutely condemned the old court house and left the county nothing to do but radically improve the building or erect a new one. The commissioners were unanimous in advocating the erection of a new building, and decided to ask the General Assembly to pass a bill providing for a special tax for this purpose.

The General Assembly, with the act of March 21, 1900, provided the ways and means under which the building could be financed. The act provided for the submission to the qualified voters of the county the question of taxing themselves to the extent of two hundred thousand dollars for the erection of a new court house. The act also provided for a building commission of four members, two from each of the two leading political parties, which was to have the general supervision of the construction of the building. The election was set for April 2, 1900, and resulted as follows:

	For	Against		For	Against
Bath .....	212	348	Ross .....	95	136
Beavercreek .....	189	202	Silvercreek .....	137	411
Caesarscreek .....	78	144	Spring Valley .....	104	197

Cedarville .....	238	231	Sugarcreek .....	101	161
New Jasper .....	108	90	Xenia township .....	389	102
Jefferson .....	74	209	Xenia city .....	1,666	177
Miami .....	201	366			
			Total .....	3,582	2,674
			Majority for new court house.....		908

The total number of votes cast in 1900 on the proposition was 6,256, whereas in 1883 there were 6,382 votes cast. As might have been expected it was the vote of Xenia that settled the question, since every township in the county except Cedarville, New Jasper and Xenia voted against it. The cost of the election was \$62.10.

#### DETAILS OF CONSTRUCTION.

As soon as the commissioners had a certified result of the election they reported the fact to the judge of the common pleas court, Thomas E. Scroggy, and on April 4, 1900, he proceeded to appoint the four men for the building commission. He chose John Little and Albert Wickersham, Republicans, and Henry Barber and William W. Ferguson, Democrats. Little died on October 16, 1900, and on the 22d of the same month Judge Scroggy appointed his son, George Little, to fill the vacancy. This commission took complete charge of all the details connected with the erection of the new building, and it should be recorded as a part of the history of the county that there was not a single word of criticism found with their work from the beginning until they were finally discharged. In fact, the statement has been made that the Greene county court house of today is one of the very few in the state, if not the only one, that was built without a breath of scandal connected with it. When the final cent was accounted for, the building was not only paid out of the funds set aside for the purpose, but there was actually over \$12,000 left in the building fund. Certainly, Greene county has every reason to be proud of its court house, and it owes a debit to this building commission which can not be measured in money. The commission, by the way, served without pay, and any one who goes over the voluminous records which they left to show what they did, will realize that they did an immense amount of work during the three years that they officiated.

It is not profitable to follow the construction of the court house in detail. The building commission has left a complete record of the steps, one by one, which they took in getting the work under way, and the subsequent steps taken until the building was completed and turned over to the county. The first thing was to find temporary quarters for the transaction of the county business while the building was in process of construction. On April 16 and 17, 1900, the following quarters were secured for a period of two years with the privilege of renewing the lease if the new court house was not ready for occu-

pancy by that time: The building of C. M. & W. A. Galloway, corner of King and Main streets, for the court room, clerk and sheriff at an annual rental of \$365; two rooms in the Florence hotel (now the Manhattan hotel) for the probate judge at an annual rental of \$300; three rooms in the Steele building, corner of Main and Detroit streets, for the recorder at an annual rental of \$620; three rooms on Greene street, adjoining the Citizens National bank, and owned by Mary P. Millen and John M. Davidson, for the auditor, treasurer and county commissioners, at a rental of \$293 annually.

On the day on which the commission found a place for the county officials they let a contract to John McGary to demolish the old court house, agreeing to pay him \$1,675 for the work. The old stone pillars in front were carefully taken down and are now found at the entrance to Woodlawn cemetery. All the brick and stone in the building were carefully taken down and used in the present building, the county receiving about a thousand dollars for the brick and stone, together with such of the interior woodwork and old furniture as could be sold. All this money went into the building fund. McGary was to have the old court house torn down by July 1, 1900.

#### HOW CONSTRUCTION WORK WAS FINANCED.

A total of \$184,000 worth of bonds were sold. The first issue was for \$100,000 and was sold on February 28, 1901, to N. W. Harris & Company, of Chicago, for \$109,823.20. They were issued in denominations of \$500 each, with four per centum interest, bearing date of March 1, 1901, \$4,000 being due on March 1, 1906, and the same amount due each succeeding year until the full amount was retired. The second issue was for \$84,000 and was sold May 28, 1901, to the Citizens National Bank of Xenia for \$90,482. The county therefore realized \$200,305.20 on its two bond issues. This amount was supplemented by a loan of \$3,000 from B. J. Little, and salvage from the old court house in the sum of \$904.97. This brought the building fund up to \$204,210.17. The last report of the building commission, with every item of expenditure separately scheduled, showed that the total cost of the court house, including equipment of every kind, also the grading and sodding of the yard, amounted to \$191,764.05. This report, therefore, dated May 1, 1903, showed a balance in the building fund of \$12,446.12. It is doubtful whether another court house in the state has been as economically built as the Greene county court house.

The building commission visited several counties in the state in order to get the latest ideas in court-house architecture, in the meantime having advertised for plans and specifications for the building. Several architects submitted plans and those of Samuel Hannaford & Sons, of Cincinnati, were finally approved on August 16, 1900. The plans and specifications cover

eighty-one pages in the record. The commission at once advertised for bids to be opened on September 18, 1900, but it was not until the 6th of the following month that a contract was entered into with Hennessy Brothers & Evans Company, of Chicago. The successful bidders agreed to erect the court house according to the proposed plans and specifications for \$140,248. The contractors immediately began work and by March 15, 1901, were ready for the corner-stone exercises, this date being carved on the stone which featured the exercises of that day. The work was rapidly pushed and by July 23, 1902, although the building was not quite completed at the time, the commission and contractors entered into an agreement whereby the county officials might move in at any time. They all moved in during the first two weeks of the following month, the vouchers showing that the last bill for moving expense was allowed on August 16, 1902. The final report of the building commission, as before stated, was made on May 1, 1903.

#### SELLING AND LEASING OF PARTS OF PUBLIC SQUARE.

Those who view the public square in Xenia as it appears in 1918 will wonder why the county commissioners ever wished to sell lots off of it in the early history of the county, but such are the facts in the case. And when they found they could not sell, they leased a part of it. So many years have elapsed since the effort was made to sell off part of the public square that it is difficult to arrive at the motives actuating the commissioners. It does show, however, that they did not have a vision as to what the future might bring the county in the way of needed additional room; certainly they did not contemplate the idea that the county would not only need all of the public square donated by John Paul in 1803, but actually be compelled to buy additional ground to provide sufficient room for the jail—and that as far back as 1860.

The year 1817 saw the attempt by the county commissioners to sell some lots from the public square. It is evident that they were goaded to this action by some citizens who wanted to acquire a business location on the square, and, incidentally, the thrifty commissioners wished to add to the county treasury. While the commissioners actually did succeed in selling some lots off of the square, the sale was later set aside and the lots reverted to the county. It seems a bit queer that they should have considered the proposition to sell any of the public square, and it seems still queerer that the lawyers of the city did not inform the commissioners that they had no authority to sell. But things were done differently in those days, a hundred and one years ago. The story of this attempt to sell of part of the public square is given with all facts stated taken direct from the records of the county commissioners.

Before starting their project the commissioners evidently had a survey

made of the square, but this plat, if it was made, was not placed on their records. The public square donated by John Paul in 1803 to the county for public purposes was 198 feet in width and 330 feet in length, with the length running north and south. This tract consisted of four lots of equal size, each lot being 6 by 10 poles, or 99 by 165 feet. Our forefathers thought in terms of poles in the early days, the word rod, a measurement of sixteen and one-half feet, never occurring in the early records of the county commissioners. Strange to say the early records of the county do not disclose the agreement between John Paul and the associate judges in 1803 in regard to the public square.

The commissioners tried to sell more than half of the square donated to the county by Paul. Portions of lots 35, 61 and 62 were divided into lots by the commissioners and it was proposed to sell them to any purchaser who might want them—and had the money to pay for them. There can be no question that the primary purpose of the commissioners in this whole transaction of 1817 was to add to the county treasury. A local historian, writing in 1881, in speaking of this proposal of the commissioners, had the following to say:

“They thought, and said, that if a portion of the public ground—the public square—could be sold, and buildings erected thereon, it would bring a fund into the county treasury and enhance the value of the part unsold. While one is led to inquire of what especial benefit to the county the enhanced value land would be, when such land was never to be sold, still he is inclined to approve the motive that prompts action in that direction unless he finds some selfishness at the base. But the commissioners thinking that Greene county in its public square, donated to it by John Paul, had more ground than needed, resolved that part of it should be sold.”

#### SUPREME COURT AVERTS A PUBLIC CALAMITY.

Whatever motive may have been behind the project the fact remains that the commissioners met on January 4, 1817, and directed that parts of the public square be put on sale. The commissioners at that time were John Haines, Samuel Gamble and Thomas Hunter, the latter not being present on the day the sale was ordered. William Beatty, the old tavern keeper, and at the time the director of Xenia, was not only authorized but even ordered to sell the lots set aside for sale. Five lots were placed on sale. Before defining the limits of these lots it should be stated that Greene street was not yet in existence, this street not being set aside until March 20, 1835. There were at least three buildings on the square in 1817: the court house completed in 1809; the stone jail of 1815; the office building erected in 1814. The court house was in the southwest corner of lot No. 35; the stone jail stood exactly in the

center of the square; the office building, a brick structure, stood east of the court house, fifty feet back of Main street.

In following the description of the lots which the commissioners contemplated selling it must be remembered that the original court house square consisted of four lots of equal size, each lot being six poles wide and ten poles long, a pole being a rod in length, each lot therefore being 99 by 165 feet. The four lots were Nos. 35, 36, 61 and 62. The language used by the surveyor in defining the limits of the lots placed on sale is ambiguous in the extreme as may be seen by the following description of the lots as taken verbatim from the records of the commissioners, Vol. IV, p. 92: "3½ poles in front & 10 poles back or deep the east side of inlot No. 35." In plain terms, the lot thus described lay in the southeast corner of the square, and fronted 57¾ feet on Main street, with a depth of 165 feet. There was no Greene street at this time, so the east line of the lot was the present east line of Greene street. This is the first lot described and is sufficiently clearly defined to make it plain as to where it lay. But witness the description of the other lots.

"Northwestern corner of inlot No. 61, being 3 poles & 2/5 on Detroit Street and 4 poles on third Street; & 3 poles front and 4 poles back of the said lot Joining & lying to the south of the aforesaid corner—division—also 4 poles on third Street running 6 2/5 poles back, 2 poles in front being part of inlot No. 61 and 2 poles being part of inlot No. 62, also another division beginning at the N. E. corner of inlot No. 62 running with the line of the lot S. 12 E. 10 poles and S. 78 W. ½ pole N. 12 W. 6 2/5 poles to third Street, thence with said street 4 poles to the beginning."

There are four separate lots described in the preceding paragraph, but with such ambiguity that it is difficult to define all of them, particularly the last lot. Greene street, as set off by the county commissioners in the spring of 1835, was exactly two poles in width, that is, thirty-three feet, the cutting off of this strip leaving the public square as it is in 1918—ten poles, or 165 feet wide, and twenty poles, or 330 feet long. It will be noticed that if the sale of the lots in 1817 had been allowed to stand that the square would not be quite half the size it is today. Certainly, it would have been a calamity if the supreme court had not set aside the sale of the lots.

The supreme court in May, 1821, refused to approve the sale of the five lots above described. The county commissioners, therefore, were compelled to call upon the purchasers of the lots for the return of the notes given by them for the lots. No cash had been turned into the county treasury, the purchasers evidently not being certain that the sale would be declared legal. William Beatty, who had been directed to sell the lots at public auction, sold them on the second Friday in February, and on the 14th of the month placed in the hands of the commissioners promissory notes in the sum of \$3,253. On



June 6, 1821, the first meeting of the commissioners after the court decision of the preceding month, James and Ryan Gowdy, purchasers of certain of the lots, evidently being lots Nos. 1 and 5, delivered to the commissioners three notes which they had given for lots, although according to Beatty's report Ryan Gowdy had been the purchaser of the lot. The complete story of the sale is summarized in Beatty's report of February 14, 1817, which is here reproduced in full:

To the Honourable Court of Commissioners of the County of Greene, Gentlemen: I have proceeded to and have sold the lots in Xenia you ordered me to sell; the persons who purchased and the prices they bought are as follows: John Barber, part of in-lot No. 62, \$482; George Townsley, part of in-lot No. 65, \$615; George Townsley, part of in-lot No. 62, \$315; John Davis, part of in-lot No. 62, \$482; Ryan Gowdy, lot No. 35, \$1,381; total amount, \$3,253. I believe the above statement to be correct.

WILLIAM A. BEATTY, Director of Xenia.

#### MARKET HOUSE PEREMPTORILY REMOVED.

It is definitely stated in the record that the town had erected a market house on lot No. 62. On this same day, June 6, 1821, the town agreed to remove its market house, or erect a new one. The new building was to be situated on lot No. 62, as follows: "West end of house to be 8 feet from Detroit street, and north side to be 12 feet from Third (Market) street, 12 feet also allowed on south side of house." The town did build a new market house, and there was such a building on the north end of the public square until sometime during the Civil War. Repeated attempts were made by the county commissioners to get the town to remove the building, but it was several years after the first request was made before it was finally taken away. It is presumed that the market house was removed as a result of a peremptory order of the commissioners, dated March 12, 1859. No attempt has been made since that time to sell any of the public square, although the county actually leased a part of the square. The commissioners were possessed of the idea that they had to get a revenue from the square in some way, and if they could not sell any of it, at least there was nothing in the law to hinder them from leasing a portion of it—and that is exactly what they proceeded to do.

Few of the older citizens of the county can recall the private buildings which stood on the public square within their memory. The beginning of the leasing of part of the public square to private parties dated from June 8, 1827. On that date the commissioners leased to A. M. Miller and James Collier a part of lot No. 61, the portion leased facing Detroit street beginning 225 feet north of Main street and running 48 feet south, with a depth of 30 feet. On this lot the lessees, Collier and Miller, the former a lawyer and the latter a physician, erected what they chose to call a "law and physick office." Their building was of brick, forty by sixteen feet. According to their lease they

were to erect the building, keep it in good repair, and on June 8, 1842, fifteen years later, were to give the county a deed for the building.

But the commissioners were not satisfied with leasing this one lot; they decided that they could lease another. Accordingly, on September 1, 1827, they entered into a lease with James B. Gardiner for a lot immediately south of the one first leased, the second lot facing Detroit street forty feet and running back thirty feet. Gardiner was a printer and he secured the lot evidently with the intention of erecting a building for a newspaper, although his lease stated that he might either put up a building for a printing establishment, or "as he may think proper, offices of law and physic." His lease, like the one granted Collier and Miller, was to expire in fifteen years and whatever building he might erect was to become the property of the county at that time—September 1, 1842. Gardiner had established a paper in Xenia, *The People's Press and Impartial Expositor*, on May 24, 1826, and it continued to be published until it was consolidated with the *Xenia Gazette* on January 1, 1829. It is presumed that it was this *People's Press, etc.*, which found a home on the public square following Gardiner's lease in 1827. His building was to be an exact duplicate of the one erected by Collier and Miller.

Subsequently, other parties occupied these two buildings. One housed the store of Samuel Puterbaugh for a number of years. John Moore conducted a tailoring establishment in the lower room of the Gardiner building from 1835 until it was removed some time about the middle of the '40s. R. F. Howard came to Xenia in 1837 and established his office in the upper room of this same building, remaining there until it was removed.

#### PASSING A GOOD THING ALONG.

But the commissioners were evidently persuaded that this leasing of part of the public square was a good thing for the county, although it is hard to see just how they figured it. They derived no revenue from the lease, and could not possibly have been the gainer from a financial point of view until the expiration of the fifteen-year lease which was granted the builders of the two little brick houses, or "shops," as the records of the commissioners chose to call them. After the first two buildings were erected, a third party came along and asked for space on the square for a building, and a third time the commissioners leased a tract for a fifteen-year period. This third lease, dated September 27, 1828, was entered into with one George Maxwell, who was given permission to erect and occupy a house on the square, the building to be the same size as the two private buildings already erected. It was specified in his lease that he was to have the privilege of making a slight change in the appearance of his building by changing the location of the chimney and

one of the windows, but in all other respects it was to be the same as the other two on the square. It was stated that its "north wall to be 4 feet distant from the house built by Collier & Miller." It faced Detroit street and stood between the Collier-Miller building and the engine house of the town of Xenia, the latter being erected in 1831.

It has been practically impossible to determine the shifting occupants of these three private brick buildings facing Detroit street. As before stated, the two built in 1827 were to revert to the county in June, 1842. Reference to the commissioners' records for that year disclose the fact that on June 9, 1842, the commissioners rented to Amos Rogers the "Northeast room" of the building on the public square "next the engine house and hay scales for one year from this day." The lessee was to pay the county twenty-five dollars a year for the room. The question arises—which building was this? The Collier-Miller building or the Maxwell building? The Maxwell lease could not have expired until 1843, being entered into in September, 1828. In fact, it is apparent that Maxwell never erected any building at all, and it follows, therefore, that the room rented Rogers in 1842 must have been in the Collier-Miller building. On this same date, June 9, 1842, Charles T. Traugh, a lawyer, rented the south room of the same building, paying the same annual rental.

The other building, the Gardiner print shop, was rented by the county on September 24, 1842, to Richards & Hemble, the lease stating that they were to have "the brick building they now occupy as a store house on public ground for the term of one year from September 1, 1842." They were to pay the county an annual rental of fifty dollars. The last reference in the commissioners' records to these two brick buildings was made on June 10, 1843. On that date it was "Ordered that Alfred Trader be and is hereby authorized to rent the shops on the public ground in Xenia and collect the rents for the same until the 1st of April, 1844." The new court house was being erected during the years 1842-44 and it seems that the county intended to remove the two little brick "shops" when they began to clear up the ground after the court house was completed. There is no reference, however, to any order for their demolition, but it seems certain that they were removed sometime in the summer of 1844. Thus ended the county's connection with private enterprises on the public square, although the market house and engine house of the city were to remain on the public square for several years later.

#### JAILS OF GREENE COUNTY.

No sooner was the organization of Greene county effected and the legal processes of the state were instituted than there were found violators of the law who had to be incarcerated in some kind of prison. It was very easy in

those days to be a violator of the law even if life was very simple, and a glance at the laws and penalties in use in the early days of the county's existence reveals how drastic the legal code was then. One of the chief conditions which brought many charges to the county sheriff was the practice of imprisonment for debt and every early jail in the state was fitted with a special room for the use of debtors.

Greene county has been a political unit of the state for one hundred and fifteen years, and during the first fifty-seven years of this period the county erected no fewer than five jails, some of logs, some of stone and some of brick. It is somewhat difficult to follow the history of the early jails of the county since it is somewhat confused, due perhaps to the frequent repairing of the buildings already erected. It is said at the beginning of this paragraph that there have been five jails built, but that is only a safe estimate. There is ample room for the contention that there have been six jails; one in 1803, one in 1804, another in 1808, another in 1813, another in 1833 and another, the present one, in 1860. Thus it seems that in the first twenty-nine years of the county's history it had five jails constructed or in the process of construction.

#### THE FIRST JAIL.

When the associate judges first met at the house of Owen Davis on Beaver creek on May 10, 1803, they transacted only county business, hence there was then no need for a jail; but when the August term came when causes were tried, there was immediate need for a jail. Accordingly on August 22, 1803, it was "ordered that the larger block house at Mr. Jacob Smith's Mill on Beaver creek be appropriated to the use of a Jail, and that Benjamin Whiteman, Esq., be appointed in behalf of the Court to contract for repairing the same." This was one of the blockhouses erected by Owen Davis to protect the mill from anticipated attacks of the Indians. It seemed to the early organizers of the county at first to be as equally efficient in keeping men in as it was in keeping them out. Of course at this time it was definitely determined where the new county seat would be located and the jail was only temporary and had to be convenient to the place where court was held. Judge Whiteman soon busied himself with his commission of repairing the blockhouse so that it would serve as a county bastille and he employed Jacob Shingledecker to do the work. Sometime between August and December of that year the work was finished and on December 7, 1803, the court allowed Shingledecker nine dollars and fifty cents for the work he had done upon the first county jail. This improvised structure served until the removal of the seat of government to the new county seat at the forks of Shawnee run in the autumn of 1804.

## THE SECOND JAIL.

Evidently it has been the contention heretofore that what is here indicated as the second jail was not a second jail but was the repairing of the old blockhouse, five and one-half miles west of Xenia on Beaver creek, but evidence seems to point conclusively to the fact that this was a second jail and was erected in Xenia, but its site is unknown; however, it is quite probable that it was located on some part of the public square. Sometime before the first meeting of the county commissioners on June 11, 1804, the associate judges decided to build a jail, as is shown by the following order of the commissioners: "Ordered that the Treasurer pay James Barrett (one of the associate judges) six dollars for services in advertising & selling out the building of the public Jail." This order was dated July 2, 1804. It is reasonable that this jail was built in the new county seat, for when the court convened in August, 1804, they occupied the upstairs room in the house of William Beatty in Xenia. Furthermore, it seems that the court would not be willing to transport prisoners for trial from a jail located on Beaver creek five and one-half miles away.

The construction of this jail was let to Amos Derrough sometime prior to the meeting of the commissioners in June, 1804, and on July 2, 1804, the commissioners gave him an order for thirty-three dollars, in part, for his work. William Chenoweth received fifty-eight dollars for the iron work; John Walker, ten dollars for two locks for the jail doors, and John Kenny, thirty-five dollars for labor in its construction.

For some reason the work on the jail was not progressing rapidly enough for the commissioners; probably the contractor had been taking time off to cultivate his crops. At any rate on August 15, 1804, the commissioners issued the following dictum: "It is considered by the Commissioners that if Amos Derrough does not compleat the Publick Jail for the County of Greene on or before the 15th day of September, next, the building thereof shall be advertised and sold to the lowest bidder." Evidently the threat had its effect, for the contractor hurried the construction so much that the building was deficient in many details. At their meeting on October 8, 1804, the commissioners ordered "that the Clerk of the Commissioners issue an order in favor of Amos Derrough to Joseph C. Vance, for the balance of the money due him for the building of the Jail, after making deduction of thirty dollars for deficiency of the work; also a deduction of the amount of his order in favor of William A. Beatty." Since the amount that Derrough actually received is not indicated, it is impossible to ascertain the exact cost of the building. The fact that this order was cashed by Joseph C. Vance lends more color to the contention that this was a second jail, located in the new town of Xenia, for Vance was director of the new county seat.

Clearly this jail building was not at all satisfactory to the commissioners and an additional improvement to be made to it was ordered and advertised for sale on March 12, 1805. The work was let to James Collier for six hundred and forty dollars, and his task was "the repairing and New erection of the Public Jail." Prisoners were lodged in the building as the work progressed, for on November 4, 1805, Collier was ordered to repair a breach made in its walls by escaping prisoners. The contractor was also allowed a dollar and a quarter for a barrel for the use of the prisoners. Stoves were not in common use in those days, but on November 5, 1804, the commissioners appropriated forty dollars which Collier should use to buy a stove. Of course, such rare comforts were not kept in stock by any of the pioneer merchants of Xenia at that time and the stove was quite probably brought up from Cincinnati by wagon.

Collier had the same difficulty with the commissioners as had Derrough, for on January 6, 1806, they ordered him to have the building finished by April 1 or the construction would be again advertised and sold to the lowest bidder. They added that the building would not be held agreeable to contract unless "it was taken down to the foundation." What they meant by this expression is difficult to determine. As the fateful first day of April drew near the hearts of the commissioners softened and they extended the time to the seventeenth of that month, on which day Collier turned the building over to them. When the commissioners examined the structure, they felt that it had not been erected precisely according to the contract, hence they deducted fifty dollars from the amount they paid Collier.

In the ensuing two years several improvements were added to the building. The door facings were plated and well spiked, so also were the wicket holes in the doors well plated. The grates in the outside walls were well spiked. Despite all these precautions several prisoners made good their escape from the bastile, among whom was one Daniel Robinson. He was imprisoned for a judgment to the amount of \$147.68, which was paid by the sheriff, William Maxwell, because the prisoner had escaped before he had served his time. When the unfortunate sheriff presented his bill to the commissioners for the amount of the judgment, it was not allowed.

#### THE THIRD JAIL.

Much was contributed to the sheriff's peace of mind when the commissioners ordered a new jail to be built and advertised the sale of its construction to the lowest bidder on December 24, 1808. Before the bids were turned in, the commissioners assured the would-be contractors that the successful applicant would be allowed the use of all the materials in the old jail. The exact location of the new jail was not expressly given, save that it was

to be erected in the town of Xenia. The specifications and detailed description of the building, dated December 6, 1808, follow:

Ordered that there be a publick Jail erected on the ground now staked out in the town of Xenia for that purpose, in the following manner and of the following material (viz.) The foundation to be dug eighteen inches deep & twenty feet square; a floor of square timber the size of the foundation to be at least one foot thick; the first logs of the building to be laid crosswise the width of the foundation. The Building to be of logs, hewed on two sides, at least one foot thick & facing at least one foot the full length; logs to be 18 feet long & the building to be raised 8 feet high, on the top of which is to be a floor of timber, one foot square, on the top of which is to be a coat of well wrought mortar at least 4 inches thick. Across the upper floor is to be a girder 10 inches thick and the face to average at least one foot, & to be pinned sufficiently with a 2 inch pin in every piece of the floor; in which (jail) there is to be a good cabin roof; the corners to be raised in half dove tailed order, and each log to be pinned at the corner with a 2 inch pin. One door in the east side to suit the shutters of the jail, which shall have 2 shutters, one hanging on the outside and one hanging on the inside. One window to suit the old grates, two of which shall be put into it. Door checks to be six inches thick and the width of the wall to be sufficiently spiked on with the old spikes; the doors to be hung with the old hangings. A suitable hole made for the stove through the upper floor. \* The lower floor and at least 3 logs high to be of white oak. The doors to be secured with sufficient locks, the inside with two good pad-locks & the outside with one good latch lock. The dirt to be thrown up round the outside of the wall and well beaten down.

\* N. B. which is to be well plated with iron, which plate is to extend 6 inches above the floor, on which hole a small brick chimney is to be built through the roof, which is to be secured in the usual manner against sparks. On each side of the door there is to be plates of iron on the joints; between the checks & wall spiked into the checks and wall for 6 inches above and below each hinge; into the checks there is to be large nails drove within one-half inch of each other & in the same manner is to be nailed the wall for 6 inches round the door inside and outside & round; the window is to be nailed in the same manner, one foot inside and outside.

JOSIAH GROVER, CLK. PRO TEM.

On the day appointed for the bids to be considered, it was found that William A. Beatty, the first tavern keeper in Xenia and the second director of the county seat, was found to make the lowest offer, but the amount of his bid is not included in the records of the commissioners. It was the original intention that this jail should be a building of one story, but as the work progressed, the commissioners decided upon adding a second story. This conclusion called for the following addition to the record on June 16, 1809:

William Beatty, the undertaker of the jail now building in the Town of Xenia, agrees to raise another story of seven feet high in the clear, the wall to be the same sort of logs and to be raised in the same manner as the lower story; the upper floor of the lower story to be mortered as directed in a former order. There is to be five small sleepers to face even with the mortar; to have a door and a window similar to them in the lower story, except the nailing around them; the upper floor of the lower story to be laid with loose plank; the upper floor of all to be laid with logs at least a foot thick, well squared and laid close to girders, and of the same kind and pinned in the same manner as was to have been on the first story; the hole for the stove pipe chimney and roof all to be done agreeably to the afore mentioned order. There is to be suitable stair steps to the upper door. Said Beatty is allowed \$40 for additional work. The above undertaker is to have the benefit of all the remaining materials of the old jail and if there should not be sufficient,

they are to be furnished at the expence of the county. Said undertaker agrees to compleat the whole of said work against the 15th day of August, next.

J. GROVER, CLK. B. C.

Although this jail was by far a more substantial building than its predecessors, the repeated jail deliveries decreased its effectiveness as a county bastille. It was accepted from the contractor on October 18, 1809, and in the summer of 1813 the commissioners declared it to be in a bad condition. It has been said that this jail burned down after July 20 of that year, but it is more probable that the need of a new jail was so pressing that the erection of a new one was mandatory.

#### THE FOURTH JAIL.

It was on July 20, 1813, that the commissioners inspected the jail which had been finished by Beatty in 1809 and soon after they filed their adverse report concerning its condition on that day, they began making plans for a new county bastille. The sale of the construction of the proposed jail was advertised for September 13, 1813, and on that day the building was let to James Miller, the lowest bidder, at ten hundred and eighty-four dollars, the building to be of stone.

The builder of this jail, James Miller, was a Scotchman who came to America when he was a very young man. After he had settled on Clarks run in Greene county, his letters to his old father back in Scotland were so full of enthusiasm concerning the county, state and neighborhood that the old gentleman decided to follow his son to this country and settle with him. By his son's letters the elder Miller became so familiar with this part of the country that he thought everyone in America surely knew his "wee Jamie." While en route from Philadelphia, where he landed on American soil, to Clarks run, Greene county, the old gentleman was wont to ask whom he met, "De ye ken one Jamie Miller, the stone mason, who lives on Clarks run, Greene county, Ohio?" Ere the elder Miller arrived at his son's home, he found that his son, Jamie, was better known here and in Scotland than at any intermediate point.

After the building of the jail had been awarded to him, James Miller set to work upon his task, and completed it ready to turn over to the county on December 16, 1815. The jail building was located in the center of the public square, north of the court house, so that the west end of the former was in the line of the east end of the latter. The jail extended lengthwise north and south. It was the intention of the commissioners to build a jail that would successfully contain the prisoners and would withstand the ravages of fire. The building was used for jail purposes until May 5, 1836.

Notwithstanding the precautions of the sheriff and the commissioners this stone jail was broken no less than three times during the years of its



usefulness. On March 4, 1822, John French was allowed a dollar and a quarter for repairing a "breach made in the jail by Prisoners." The commissioners were compelled to repair damages resulting from the same cause by orders dated April, 1823, and March 10, 1824.

Nineteen years after Miller turned the jail over to the commissioners, it became almost unfit for use and a new and fifth jail building was planned. While the new jail was in the process of construction, the old stone jail was used for lodgment of prisoners. Shortly before the new building was completed, the latter was sold at auction along with the old office. The latter was bought by Samuel Crumbaugh for forty-three dollars and fifty cents, and, possibly because of some sentiment, the old jail was purchased by its builder, James Miller, for one hundred and forty-three dollars.

#### THE FIFTH JAIL.

After the commissioners had decided that the old stone jail was no longer fit for use, they began in earnest to plan for a new building. Before they brought forth their adverse opinion of the old jail, dated January 22, 1834, they had considered the erection of a new jail at their meeting on August 1, 1833. When they began making plans for the new jail after January 22, 1834, they decided that it should be of stone and the material should be obtained at the quarry of Daniel Dean. On April 1, 1834, they went to Dayton to get some ideas concerning jail construction, for which journey they allowed themselves two dollars each. After they returned from their tour of investigation, they decided on that day to suspend the construction of a new jail and repair the old one.

The question was taken up again at their meeting on June 7, 1834, and the commissioners decided to go to Chillicothe to get additional data concerning jail construction. Shortly after their return, they decided upon the immediate construction of the new jail and advertised the sale of the construction work to the lowest bidder. The work was let to Daniel Lewis on September 2, 1834, for the sum of forty-six hundred dollars. The building, which was of brick and was two stories high, was to be located on the north-east corner of the square, twenty feet from the east line of the square. It was to face the north and was to be forty-four feet long and forty feet wide. The first arrangement provided for alleys, twelve feet wide, one on the south side of the building and one on the east side. There were requests made by the citizens of Xenia to change this plan, to which the commissioners hearkened and had the jail located twelve feet farther south, thus cutting off the alley on that side. After the building was finished the commissioners enlarged the jail lot by adding twelve feet on the south side thereof.

On June 24, 1836, the building was finished and turned over to the

county, but soon afterward it was found necessary to make an addition to the building. The sheriff's quarters needed a kitchen, which was to be fourteen feet wide and sixteen feet long. The erection of this was let to David Rader and William C. Robinson on July 4, 1836, for one hundred and forty-six dollars.

#### THE SIXTH AND PRESENT JAIL.

The grand jury declared the old brick jail a nuisance in 1858, and John Fudge, one of the county commissioners, was delegated on July 10, 1858, to examine sites for the erection of a new jail. Apparently the commissioners realized at this time that it was desirable to establish the county jail on some other site than on the public square. The matter of the selection of a site dragged along until March 12, 1859, when the county fathers decided to defer the building of a new jail because of the lack of funds. Somewhat later in the year, the commissioners thought the time ripe to take up the question again and they concluded to build the jail forthwith, using the funds which had arisen from the dividends the county had received from its investment in railroad stock. Yet the question of the site of the jail remained a difficult one to solve.

#### DETERMINING THE SITE FOR THE NEW JAIL.

The commissioners were not alone in their belief that the county bastille should be located on some other spot than the public square, for on September 1, 1859, four hundred and twenty-eight citizens of the county petitioned the county fathers to locate the jail on some other site than on the public square. They maintained that the square should be preserved unobstructed by any buildings other than the court house. It is quite possible that the greater number of these petitioners were residents of Xenia.

In addition to this petition the common council of Xenia also sought to bring pressure upon the board of commissioners, in order that the new jail should not be erected on the public square. The methods used by the council almost resulted fatally to the object which they had in mind. Along in the '20s the associate judges had granted the city of Xenia the right to build a market house on the public square, fronting Market street, then Third street, but this building gradually fell into disuse and the commissioners ordered the city to remove it on March 12, 1859. The common council did not readily assent to the request of the commissioners, much to the discomfiture of the latter body. On September 1, 1859, the council notified the board of commissioners that the city would remove the old market house, if the new jail would not be erected on the public square. This proviso angered the board of commissioners because they considered it bordered upon impudence and because the council had no right to place such stipulations upon the re-

removal of the market house. Apparently out of pique the commissioners decided to locate the site for the new jail on the public square. This order was not passed unanimously, for one of the board, Robert Jackson, maintained that the jail should not be erected as the commissioners ordered, but he added that the city council should be forced to remove the market house. The intention of the commissioners was not carried out, because they and the city council got together on February 8, 1860, and the latter assented to remove the market house; however the record does not reveal whether or not the commissioners gave the council assurance that the site for the new jail would be located on the public square.

After the altercation with the city council was settled, the commissioners found resistance coming from another quarter. On March 9, 1860, two petitions against the jail were read at a meeting of the board. The first one was in opposition to the change of the site of the county jail, because, in the first place, the building should be convenient to the court house, and in the second place, because the purchase of another site would create a need for additional taxes. The second petition was not only opposed to the change of site, but also to the erection of a new jail. These latter petitioners were not in favor of a new jail, declaring that there was no necessity for it and also that it would create the need of additional taxes "at a time when the burthen is sufficient onerous." The commissioners could not entertain these petitions, since they thought that the ruling motive for submitting these petitions was the fear of additional taxes. They declared this position was untenable because the new site and the erection of the new jail would be paid for out of the railroad dividend fund. They also felt that the fact that the grand jury had declared the old jail was a nuisance was sufficient ground for the erection of a new jail.

At last on March 13, 1860, the commissioners, having determined definitely upon locating the new jail off the public square, bought from James McCarty the north half of in-lot No. 64, on the south side of Market street, for nine hundred and fifty dollars. This lot is sixty-six feet wide and eighty-two and one-half feet deep. This location did not please some of the women residents of the city who framed a petition against the action of the board. They felt that the influence of taking prisoners to and from the jail along Market street to the court house would be bad and unsightly. The ladies did not present the petition in person but placed it in the hands of John Alexander to submit to the board. Anticipating this same condition, the commissioners had already bought additional land so located that a passage way from the jail to the court house would open on Greene street. This tract was a part of lot No. 64, fronting on Whiteman street, and was sixty-six feet wide and eighty-two and one-half feet deep, having a thirty-three

foot front on Greene street. This land was purchased from Samuel Crumbaugh on April 4, 1860, for thirteen hundred and fifty dollars. On April 17, a part of this last realty acquisition, forty-two by sixty-seven feet on the southeast corner, was sold to David Rader. On this date John B. Gowdy, David Rader and George F. Payne were allowed the use of this alley to the jail from Greene street. This passage off Greene street is still in use.

#### THE BUILDING OF THE JAIL.

Bids for the erection of the new jail were ordered to be advertised for, March 13, 1860, and on April 16 the construction of the building was let to John Scott. The building, which included the sheriff's residence as well as the jail, was to be of brick. It was turned over to the sheriff on December 8, 1860. During the time in which the jail was in the process of construction, a temporary place for the lodgment of prisoners had to be provided and a "lock-up" was built by the city of Xenia aided by the county.

At first the jail lot was inclosed partly by a picket fence and partly by a closed one. These were built by Norris & Miller for eighty-eight dollars and sixty-seven cents. They were torn down later and in their stead on the north and east was placed a part of the old iron fence which was taken down from around the court house in 1891. On October 4, 1875, the building of a stable for the use of the sheriff was let to J. M. and W. Rader and Samuel Peterson. This structure, which was made of brick, was twenty-five by forty-nine feet. Its total cost was somewhat in excess of six hundred dollars.

#### RULES FOR THE USE OF THE JAIL.

After the new jail was turned over to the sheriff on December 8, 1860, the commissioners drafted a set of rules governing the use of the building and its inmates and these rules were enforced on January 1, 1861. The first one determined the parts of the building which should be used by different kinds of prisoners. The cells on the balcony in the west hall were designed for the confinement of female prisoners; also the balcony and room at the head of the box staircase, extending from the jailor's office. The east hall and cells were designed for prisoners who were charged with more serious crimes and the west hall and cells below the balcony for those charged with lesser misdemeanors. The second rule had to do with the care of the building. Every four months the entire inside walls of the jail were to be white-washed, but the iron work was to receive no coat of calcimine. Each cell in the prison during its period of occupancy had to be cleaned thoroughly every two weeks. The third and last rule, determined among other things that the prisoners, who were well behaved, would be permitted the use of the halls in the day time, but each one had to be locked in his cell at eight o'clock in the evening.

At this time (1918) this jail, which was finished in 1860, is doing good service. It has been kept in a good state of repair and it bids fair to be a place for the lodgment of the county's prisoners for several years to come.

#### THE GREENE COUNTY INFIRMARY.

In the first twenty-five years of the existence of the state the principles followed in caring for the poor and destitute were not at all in accordance with the methods now in use. It was the practice in those days for some landowner or the operator of a woolen mill or some other industry to engage the services of the unfortunates in their service by making application to the township trustees. The unfortunate was then bound out to the lowest bidder, for there was some competition among landowners and the like for his service, because pauper labor was very cheap. After the pauper entered the service of the successful applicant, it was the duty of the latter to feed, clothe and otherwise care for his charge. It did not always follow that the owner of the services of the pauper was strict in performing his part of the contract. This arrangement was not entirely in accordance with the democratic feelings of the West, but the practice had grown up in the eastern part of the country, which section had copied the system from England, where there were until the thirties the most atrocious "poor laws."

As the years passed and the ebb and flow of emigration passed over the state of Ohio, a more democratic spirit permeated the residents of this section which caused the people to look with disfavor upon the promiscuous binding out of indigents without hedging about the binding-out with sufficient safeguards to the pauper. At the same time with the increase in population, the number of destitute persons increased and it became apparent that proper and more satisfactory measures must be taken to provide for the comfort and care of paupers. To this end a bill "for the establishment of county poor houses" was passed by the General Assembly, which provided that any county having within its borders a sufficient number of paupers was empowered to purchase grounds, whereon suitable buildings were to be erected, to which all the infirm and needy ones were to be admitted. Thus the old vicious system of indiscriminately selling the services of indigents by civil authority was abolished throughout the state.

#### THE BINDING OUT OF A PAUPER.

This did not mean that the practice of giving indigent children into the hands of persons to rear and teach an occupation ceased. Even nowadays that is done. At the meeting of the infirmary directors on February 8, 1839, the following was spread upon the minutes of the board:

The Board met at the House of John Ankeney, present were Samuel Crumbaugh, Samuel Gowdy and John Ankeney, to bind out William K. Ross, who was a pauper, to John Little, to learn the art of farming. The aforesaid William K. Ross will be eight years old the 14th day of July, next. The said William K. Ross is to serve until he arrives at the age of twenty-one years, and the said John Little agrees to teach the said William all the arts and occupations of a farmer, and at the expiration of his term of service, agrees to give the said William a new Bible, a horse worth fifty dollars, and a new saddle and bridle and a freedom suit.

On the same day the board bound out James Ross, aged nine years, who was the brother of William, to John Strothers to learn the art of wagon-making and farming; and they also agreed to bind out Malinda Ross, who was fourteen years of age, to Brinton Baker.

Soon after the act of the Legislature granting counties the right to establish county infirmaries, the board of commissioners for Greene county ordered the purchase of land for this purpose. The tract decided upon lay on the Dayton pike, one and one-half miles west of Xenia. The record of the meeting of the board of commissioners for June 6, 1828, includes the following:

The Board this day closed a contract and received a deed from Samuel Crumbaugh for 104.41 acres of land for the purpose of erecting a poor house on for the use of the County, for which they pay out of the County Treasury seven hundred dollars, four hundred of which is to be paid in hand and the balance to be paid on, or before, the 25th of January, next, possession to be given the first of April, next.

This tract lies on both sides of the road, which divides it into two parts almost equal in size. On June 26, 1829, the contract for the building of the first infirmary building was let to George W. Stipp at four hundred ninety dollars and fifty cents. The building was of brick, sixty feet long, sixteen feet wide and one story high with a ceiling eight feet high. The site chosen lies north of the Dayton pike, just north of the small brook which flows across the northern and eastern portions of the county farm, and immediately to the rear of the site of the old building which was used for the Children's Home before the present beautiful structure was erected for that purpose. At first sight it might seem strange that such a remote spot should be chosen for the building, but its location was due to the fact that water could be obtained here in abundance and with convenience. In 1830 a spring house and smoke house were erected near the main building at a cost of fifty-four dollars and fifty cents and were accepted on August 31, 1830.

#### EARLY MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS.

On the same date that the contract for the erection of the infirmary building was let, June 26, 1828, the county commissioners elected George Townsley, William McKnight and George Galloway as directors of the infirmary. The first meeting of the board of directors occurred on February

13, 1829, and George Townsley was chosen clerk and was appointed to go to Dayton to see how paupers were cared for there. He soon returned with the necessary information and was further delegated by the board to draw up rules and regulations which should govern the infirmary. When finished, this document contained thirteen articles, one of which follows:

He [the superintendent] shall attend all the regular meals and see that the people behave themselves orderly; that they do not begin to eat or to help themselves or each other, but wait in silence until a blessing is asked, if there is any person present who will perform that duty, and after the meal is finished wait in the same respectful manner that thanks may be returned for the mercies extended. He shall take care that the victuals be well and seasonably dressed; that the rooms be swept out and the beds be made every day, necessary for comfort and health; that the straw in the beds, be changed once a month in the summer season, and that the house and tenants be kept clean from vermin; that the people be clean and decent in their clothes and have clean linen to shift once a week.

On February 19, 1829, the directors advertised for a person to serve as superintendent of the infirmary, and at the same meeting each director was assigned townships in which he was to ascertain the number of paupers. At the meeting on March 13, 1829, William Ellis, a Quaker, was appointed superintendent with a salary of two hundred and fifty dollars a year, and he was ordered, after signing his name to the rules and regulations as given above, to "provide for the use of the institution four short-posted bedsteads and cords, also three feather beds and one of chaff or straw; three blankets for each bed; two pillows and a bolster for each; and four extra pillows; also four underbeds of tow linen filled with straw or chaff; also four pair andirons; also one large square table and one small one; also three arm chairs, plain, split-bottom." At the same time Ellis reserved the right to send his children to school, four at a time for three months, since he was the father of seven children at that time.

#### THE SECOND INFIRMARY BUILDING.

As the population of the county increased, the number of inmates of the county infirmary grew so large that a more commodious building became necessary in which to house them. In 1840 the original building was torn down and a new brick structure, forty feet wide, one hundred feet long and two stories high, was erected just in front of the site of the old building. In 1859 a wing was added to the east end of the building, the improvement costing \$1,831.50, of which \$657 was paid to William Sheppard for the carpenter work and painting and \$1,174.50 to Aniel Rogers for the brick and stone work. Sometime afterward a small building for the housing of insane inmates was built a few paces to the east of the main structure. By this time the management of the infirmary, which had been efficient, had brought the greater part of the farm under cultivation.

## THE PRESENT BUILDING.

The constant increase in the number of inmates made the second infirmary building inadequate, and in view of this fact a new, and the latest building for this purpose, was erected in 1869 on that part of the county farm across the Dayton pike. This building is one hundred and fifty feet long, fifty feet wide and contains three stories and a basement. The cost of this building, the outbuildings and steam fixtures was seventy-five thousand dollars. Sometime later a wing was added to the south side of the building to provide a place for the lodgment of insane inmates and the old structure which was erected across the road for this purpose in 1840 was made into a chapel and school house for the Greene County Children's Home. This wing is not now used for the housing of insane inmates who can be quickly taken to state institutions. The infirmary is well fitted for the care of the county's unfortunates, having a sufficient number of baths and other conveniences. The building is steam heated, and in summer the broad lawn in front of the building is beautifully kept and studded with beds of beautiful flowers. The present superintendent and matron of the infirmary are Matthias S. Smith and wife, who have served in these respective capacities since 1915.

## INFIRMARY SUPERINTENDENTS.

Since the establishment of the county infirmary several men have served in the capacity of superintendent. The early superintendents were William Ellis, 1828-31; William McIntosh, 1831-33; R. T. Marshall, 1833-34; John Crowl, 1834-38; John Gibson, 1838-41, and John Bowers, 1841-46. Among the latter ones are Jonathan Adams, John Gibson, William Mayner, George Barnes, H. Gram, John R. Sutton and Matthias S. Smith, the present superintendent.

## PRESENT MANAGEMENT OF THE INFIRMARY.

Up to the year 1913 the affairs of the county infirmary had been administered by infirmary directors who were elected by the people for three-year terms, one member of the three being chosen each year, but the General Assembly of the state in 1910 passed a law abolishing the office and placing the duties upon the county commissioners. The commissioners assumed control of the infirmary on January 2, 1913, after the retiring directors. The commissioners in the capacity of infirmary directors now hold meetings for the administration of the affairs of this institution regularly each month, when they carefully examine the conditions of the infirmary and the inmates, the manner in which they are fed, and clothed. They also ascertain what labor the inmates are required to perform and the commissioners also inspect the books and accounts of the superintendent.



## PRESENT CONDITION OF THE INFIRMARY.

In 1917 the total population of the infirmary during the year was 142, of which 110 were male and 32 female. The number remaining at the close of the year was 77, with 59 males and 18 females. The total expense of maintaining the institution, including out-door relief, for the year was \$16,354.96 and the total receipts from the production of the farm amounted to \$2,425.52. The amount then used from the county poor fund for the infirmary was \$13,929.44. The average cost per week for each inmate during 1917 was approximately \$3.77. The area of the farm has not been increased over the extent of the original tract, and the number of acres now under cultivation is eighty-five. The value of the land, buildings, furnishings, machinery, live stock, implements and other property is estimated at \$73,000. The infirmary is capable of accommodating one hundred inmates. As a matter of comparison, it is of interest to note the expenditures for poor relief in the county in 1840. This report of the directors of the infirmary, dated June 1, 1840, is the earliest one found. There was expended for paupers in the infirmary, \$342.14 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; for outside relief, \$110; for transporting paupers to the poor house, \$47.75; for the salary of the superintendent, John Gibson, \$350. The total expenditure for that year was \$847.89 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

## THE COUNTY POOR FUND.

The indigent residents of the county cost the taxpayers a large sum annually for out- and indoor relief. The county levy for purposes of poor relief during 1917 was twenty-five hundredths of one mill. The total tax and the balance from 1916 was \$25,835.40 and the total amount paid out during the year was \$21,960.93. The balance to be carried forward to the year 1918 is \$3,874.47.

## THE GREENE COUNTY CHILDREN'S HOME.

After the completion of the present infirmary building the old structure on the north side of the Dayton pike was occupied by the colored indigents of the county for several years. But in 1880 the board of directors decided to transfer all the colored adults to the main building and lodge the children in the quarters in the old building thus vacated. Before this action of the board the children were lodged along with the adults, but this condition was far from satisfactory. The aim in caring for indigent children it was held, should be not only to satisfy their physical needs, but also to surround them with such influences that they might be good citizens on reaching maturity. This then accounts for the action of the board in establishing the children's home.

## THE FIRST CHILDREN'S HOME.

The building which served as the first Greene County Children's Home was erected in 1840 to be used as the infirmary. Before the building was occupied by the children, several changes were made in its arrangement and equipment to suit the needs of the incoming occupants. The basement was used for a bakery and store room. On the first floor were located the kitchen, the dining room, which had a seating capacity of forty, the matron's apartments, the reception room and the lodging rooms of the inmates. On the second floor were the children's dormitories. The first matron was Mrs. E. Bryant, the widow of Reverend Bryant, the first colored Baptist minister to occupy a pulpit in Xenia. East of the main building was the old structure, two stories in height, which was used for insane inmates of the infirmary. This building was made over into school rooms and a chapel. The school rooms occupied the lower floor and in the upper story religious services were held every Sabbath. This building burned in 1891. The old infirmary building which was used as the first children's home remained standing until after the present building was turned over to the trustees in 1912. It was first thought that the old building would be used as a hospital, but it was finally torn down.

## THE PRESENT CHILDREN'S HOME.

This is a beautiful buff-colored, pressed-brick structure, located near the Dayton & Xenia traction line, a short distance northeast of the infirmary. It is a credit to the county and it speaks well for the philanthropic attitude of the community, which is expressed in such a sensible, fitting and lasting manner.

It had been known for several years that there was a pressing need in the county for a modern children's home. As was said before, the first building had been erected in 1840 and was sadly out of date and, from its very nature, presented little opportunity for improvement. Hence the commissioners decided in 1910 to erect a new children's home which would be modern in every detail. The first appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars was made in that year for the new building, and to do this it was found necessary to transfer \$9,181.45 from the tuberculosis-hospital fund to the children's-home fund. The contract for the excavation of the basement and the building of the foundation was let to the Dice Brothers on July 1, 1910, and the work was begun shortly afterward. Later the same firm was successful in getting the contract for the erection of the house for \$25,810. This amount, with the \$3,790 for heating and ventilation and other appropriations for other details in the construction and furnishing, brought the entire cost of the home well over the thirty-thousand-dollar mark. The

building was finally completed in the early part of 1912 and was turned over to the trustees of the home on February 2, 1912.

Not only has this building a very pleasing exterior, but it is modern in every respect, containing a school room, airy dormitories and all the necessary appurtenances of a modern children's home. The present matron of the home is Miss Mary H. Bankerd, under whose careful management the institution thoroughly performs the work for which it was intended.

This institution is under the control of four trustees appointed by the county commissioners. At first the appointment was for three years, but later the tenure was extended to four years, its present length. One member of the board is retired each year, thus insuring at least three old members on the board. They receive no salary. The members of the present board of trustees are A. S. Frazer, Grant Miller, W. W. Ferguson and O. E. Bradfute.

#### THE BLIND OF GREENE COUNTY.

One of the striking evidences of the manner in which the people of Ohio care for those who are so unfortunate as not to be able to care for themselves is seen in the provision for the care and maintenance of the blind. From the earliest period of the state's existence local authorities have provided for the poor and needy and during the time which has elapsed since the organization of the state numerous laws have been enacted for the care of all dependents, delinquents and defectives.

The present method of caring for the blind dates from April 2, 1908, at which time the Legislature passed a bill providing for pensions for all so afflicted. The pension is granted after an investigation by proper authorities shows that the person seeking the pension is justly entitled to it. When a blind person enters the county infirmary the pension automatically ceases. The county is made the unit for the distribution of the fund which is provided by a direct tax assessed for the purpose. The county commissioners are authorized to levy a special tax not exceeding two-tenths of one mill on the dollar, the same to be collected and levied as are the other taxes of the county.

#### THE LAW DEFINING A BLIND PERSON.

The law defines a blind person as anyone who, by reason of loss of eyesight, is unable to provide himself with the necessities of life; who has not sufficient means to maintain himself, and who, unless relieved as authorized by the act, would become a charge upon the public or upon those not required by law to support him. By an act of the General Assembly dated February 18, 1913, the county commissioners are given full power to determine the beneficiaries of this relief fund and the extent of the relief that may be

granted to each individual. The maximum relief granted to one person is one hundred and fifty dollars per annum and is payable quarterly. The commissioners also have the power to increase or decrease the amount granted each pensioner. Since the law went into effect in 1908 several blind persons of Greene county have been granted pensions.

## CHAPTER VII.

### ROSTER OF COUNTY AND STATE OFFICIALS.

There is a striking difference between the number of county officials in 1803 and the number in 1918 and the difference in the salaries is no less striking. The janitor of the court house now receives a larger annual salary than the combined salaries of the clerk, recorder and auditor in 1803. At the first county election in 1803 one man was elected for three offices—clerk, recorder and auditor, and the man who performed the three-fold duties was John Paul, the proprietor of the site of Xenia, who served in this capacity until he left Greene county in 1809 for Indiana Territory where he became the proprietor of the townsite of the city of Madison. The first surveyor, which office was one of, if not the most important county office in the early years of the county's career, was James Galloway, Jr., who was appointed by the associate judges at their meeting in August, 1803. Benjamin Whiteman, William Maxwell and John Sterritt were the first associate judges and they were elected to this official position by the General Assembly on March 6, 1803. The first county commissioners were Jacob Smith, the miller, James Snoden and John Sterritt, the three being elected on the first Monday of April, 1804. The office of probate judge was created by the constitution of 1851 and James W. Harper became the first probate judge. A prosecuting attorney was provided for under the first constitution of the state and Daniel Symmes was the first man to serve Greene county in that capacity. The office of county treasurer was not an elective one until several years after the organization of Greene county, the office being at first an appointive one. At the first meeting of the associate judges in 1803 James Galloway, Sr., was appointed treasurer, which office he held until 1819. The first sheriff was Nathan Lamme; the first state senator was William Schenk and the first representative was John Sterritt. Greene county did not have common pleas judges until after the constitution of 1851, but the first president judge of the county was Francis Dunlavy, who was not a resident of the county, nor was he elected by the residents of the district of which he was judge.

In the following pages are listed the county officials who have served the county since its organization or since the creation of the office which they held. This roster is as complete as could be compiled from the records, the office of coroner not being given in full because, from the very nature of the

office, the records thereof are not consecutive. The judges and prosecuting attorneys are listed in the chapter devoted to the bench and bar.

#### COUNTY SURVEYOR.

In the early history of the county the surveyor was undoubtedly one of the busiest of the corps of county officials, and the chapter on the organization of the county, wherein is explained the various surveys and wherein is given in detail something of the difficulties which confronted the early surveyors, makes it obvious that the office of surveyor was no sinecure. The congressional lands which lie west of the Little Miami give the county surveyors little difficulty, but the chief difficulty arises in the military lands east of the river. There the irregular land plats on the county map gives it the appearance of an old-fashioned "crazy quilt." As a rule the early surveyors had little technical training and many of their surveys bear evidence of their lack of engineering knowledge. Stakes were little used; dogwoods, hickories and whiteoaks serving as starting and marking points on the survey, each tree being marked with "three notches fore and aft." In those early days open land was so plentiful and so cheap that no one had the incentive to quarrel with his neighbor over a few feet or even a few rods of land. But with the increase in the value of land came the necessity for getting exact surveys of the whole county.

The office of surveyor in Greene county now bears little resemblance to the office as it must have been one hundred years ago. Now the surveyor and all his assistants must all be trained men and do their work so that it will bear the most searching investigation. The variation of an inch in a survey may lead to litigation and this means that all the work of the office must be done with extreme care. Since 1904 the county surveyor has had general charge of all the roads, bridges and ditches in the county and this has added materially to his duties. At this time Greene county is having platted every tract of land in the county, every farm and town lot, which will enable the administration of taxes to be placed upon an intelligent and equitable basis. Since the work has been in progress it has been found in several instances that some persons have been paying double taxation and others have not been paying on their entire holdings. Naturally this work is being done in the surveyor's office where it is being carried on by S. M. McKay, who has been connected with the surveying activities of the county for many years. Since all these different fields of activity in the office of county surveyor add to the responsibility of that official position, an expert is demanded for the place, and this fact is reflected in the fact that the salary attached to the office is one of the highest paid in the local public service.

The following men have served Greene county in the capacity of county

surveyor from 1803 to 1918: James Galloway, Jr., 1803-1816; Moses Collier, 1816-1830; Robert Watson, 1830-1834; Moses Collier, 1834-1841; Samuel T. Owens, 1841-1853; Washington Galloway, 1853-1878; L. Riddell, 1878-1893; G. A. McKay, 1893-1909; 1909-1913; S. M. McKay, 1909-1913; Joseph M. Fawcett, 1913-

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The office of county commissioner did not exist in Ohio in 1803, the year in which Greene county was erected, and the work of the commissioners was carried on by the associate judges who set aside a session for the transaction of county business. The board of county commissioners was created on February 14, 1804, by an act of the General Assembly. An election was held on the first Monday of April, 1804, and on June 11, 1804, Jacob Smith, James Snoden and John Sterritt presented certificates of their election and on this day the board held its first session at the house of Peter Borders on Beaver creek. As the term of the county commissioners was placed at three years, one member of the board being elected annually, these first commissioners drew lots for rank and Jacob Smith drew for three years, John Sterritt for two and James Snoden for one. The electors of the county continued to elect a commissioner annually until the Legislature changed the term of county officials in 1906. It was then that the term of the commissioner was placed at two years and all three were to be elected at the same time. The act provided that its provisions would go into effect in 1909, thus giving the officers the chance to finish their terms. The following list of county commissioners is as accurate as the historian was able to determine, the election of one member of the board each year causing considerable difficulty in compiling the list:

Jacob Smith, James Snoden and John Sterritt, 1804; Jacob Smith, James Snoden and John McLane, 1805; James Snoden, John McLane and William Beatty, 1806; James Snoden, John McLane and Andrew Read, 1807; John McLane, Andrew Read and James Morrow, 1808-1809; Andrew Read, James Morrow and William Buckles, 1810; James Morrow, William Buckles and John Haines, 1811; William Buckles, John Haines and Samuel Gamble, 1812; John Haines, Thomas Hunter and Peter Pelham, 1813; Thomas Hunter, Peter Pelham and Benjamin Grover, 1814-1815; Thomas Hunter, Samuel Gamble and Peter Pelham, 1816; Thomas Hunter, Samuel Gamble and John Haines, 1817; Thomas Hunter, John Haines and David Conley, 1818; Thomas Hunter, David Conley and Peter Pelham, 1819; David Conley, Peter Pelham and John Sterritt, 1820; David Conley, John Sterritt and William Buckles, 1821; David Conley, John Sterritt and Stephen Bell, 1822; John Sterritt, Stephen Bell and Samuel Shaw, 1823-

1824; Samuel Shaw, Stephen Bell and William Buckles, 1825; Stephen Bell, William Buckles and Mathias Winans, 1826; William Buckles, Mathias Winans and Simeon Dunn, 1827; William Buckles, Simeon Dunn and Samuel Gowdy, 1828; William Buckles, Samuel Gowdy and John Barber, 1829-1831; William Buckles, John Barber and John Fudge, 1832; William Buckles, John Fudge and Ryan Gowdy, 1833-1834; John Fudge, Ryan Gowdy and T. G. Bates, 1835-1836; John Fudge, Daniel Lewis and E. Steel, 1837-1839; John Fudge, Daniel Lewis and Bennet Lewis, 1840-1841; Bennet Lewis, Daniel Lewis and James C. Johnson, 1842-1843; Bennet Lewis, James C. Johnson and John Kendall, 1844; Bennet Lewis, John Kendall and John Fudge, 1845-1846; Bennet Lewis, John Fudge and James McMillan, 1847; John Fudge, James McMillan and John Keiler, 1848; William Reid, Bennet Lewis and John Keiler, 1849; John Keiler, William Reid and Jonas Janney, 1850; William Reid, Jonas Janney and John Harbine, 1851; William Reid, Jonas Janney and John Little, 1852; William Reid, John Little and James C. Johnson, 1853; John Little, James C. Johnson and A. H. Baughman, 1854-1855; John Little, A. H. Baughman and John Fudge, 1856; A. H. Baughman, John Fudge and Robert Jackson, 1857-1861; A. H. Baughman, Robert Jackson and S. E. Bennett, 1862; A. H. Baughman, S. E. Bennett and John G. Clemens, 1863-1864; A. H. Baughman, S. E. Bennett and D. McMillan, Jr., 1865; A. H. Baughman, D. McMillan, Jr., and J. H. Brotherton, 1866; D. McMillan, J. H. Brotherton and A. Trader, 1867-1869; D. McMillan, J. H. Brotherton and Aaron Spangler, 1870; J. H. Brotherton, Aaron Spangler and G. Snider, 1871; A. Spangler, G. Snider and H. Steel, 1872; G. Snider, H. Steel and David Rader, 1873; H. Steel, David Rader and John B. Allen, 1874; H. Steel, David Rader and William Watt, 1875; John B. Allen, J. S. Stevenson and William Watt, 1876-1880; William Watt, John S. Stevenson and John B. Allen, 1881-1883; William Watt, John S. Stevenson and Alfred Johnson, 1883; John S. Stevenson, Alfred Johnson and H. H. Conklin, 1884; Moses A. Walton, Alfred Johnson and H. H. Conklin, 1885; Moses A. Walton, H. H. Conklin and Alfred Johnson, 1886-1889; W. H. Glotfelter, Moses A. Walton and H. H. Conklin, 1890; John B. Stevenson, Moses A. Walton and W. M. Glotfelter, 1890-1892; John B. Stevenson, W. H. Glotfelter and J. W. Pollock, 1892-1894; John B. Stevenson, W. H. Glotfelter and J. W. Pollock, 1894-1896; John B. Stevenson, J. W. Pollock and John Fudge, 1897; John B. Stevenson, John Fudge and Lewis Smith, 1897-1901; R. H. Nash, John Fudge and Lewis Smith, 1902; R. H. Nash, Lewis Smith and John W. Hedges, 1903; R. H. Nash, John W. Hedges and John W. Smith, 1902-1906; R. H. Nash, Joshua Barrett, A. G. Carpenter and John W. Smith, 1907; John W. Smith, J. F. Harshman and A. G. Carpenter, 1907-1909; I. T. Cum-



mins, J. F. Harshman and R. D. Williamson, 1911-1915; C. M. Austin, J. C. Conwell and R. D. Williamson, 1915-1918; George N. Perrill, Robert Corry and R. D. Williamson.

#### TREASURER.

The office of county treasurer has been in existence since the organization of the county, for on August 4, 1803, the associate judges appointed James Galloway, Sr., to this office, for which he was allowed three per cent. of all the taxes collected for the safe keeping and the paying out of all money. For 1804 the amount of his salary was about fourteen dollars. The complete list of the treasurers who have served Greene county from its organization to the present (1918) follow:

James Galloway, Sr., 1803-1819; Ryan Gowdy, 1819-1820; Tinsley Heath, 1820-1821; James Gowdy, 1821-1824; Hugh Hamill, 1824-1825; James Gowdy, 1825-1828; Samuel Newcomb, 1828-1840; Alfred Trader, 1840-1852; Brinton Baker, 1852-1856; John Louck, 1856-1858; David Medsker, 1858-1862; Daniel Lewis, 1862-1863; F. A. McClure, 1863-1864; Richard Galloway, 1864-1868; Henry Barnes, 1868-1872; Robert Stevenson, 1872-1876; L. Arnold, 1876-1880; J. H. Cooper, 1880-1884; Frank E. McGervey, 1884-1888; James A. Johnston, 1888-1892; Joshua P. Ogglesbee, 1892-1896; John A. Nesbet, 1896-1900; Asa Little, 1902-1906; Oscar R. Kauffman, 1906-1909; Rankin R. Greive, 1909-1915; John H. McVay, 1915-1917, and J. E. Sutton, 1917-1919.

#### CORONER.

The office of coroner was established by the constitution of 1803, but since the salary arising from this office was paid in fees and since the necessity for inquests came only intermittently, the historian has not been able to compile a complete list of the coroners. Among the early incumbents of the office were James Collier 1814-1820; David Connelly, 1820-26; James Collier, 1826-30. It has been possible by consulting the newspaper files to obtain a complete list of coroners since 1881, which list follows: Clark M. Galloway, 1881-1887; A. S. Dryden, 1887-1891; M. A. Broadstone, 1891-1897; William W. McMillan, 1897-1898; Charles S. Johnson, 1898-1909; P. C. Marquart, 1909-1917, and R. L. Haines, 1917-1919.

#### CLERK.

The office of the clerk of the common pleas court was provided for in the first constitution of the state, and each succeeding constitution adopted in the state has provided for the office. The tenure was seven years during the period of the first constitution (1803-1852); from 1852 to 1909 the ten-

ure was three years; since the year last named it has been two years. The complete list of clerks from the organization of the county to the present time follows:

John Paul, 1803-1809; Josiah Grover, 1809-1830; James L. Grover, 1830-1837; Thornton Marshall, 1837-1844; D. W. Brown (pro-tempore), 1844; M. Stark (pro-tempore), 1845; James J. Winans, 1846-1852; John Boyd, 1852-1861; J. G. McWirk, 1861-1864; John Orr, 1864-1882; John A. Cisco, 1882-1891; J. F. Haverstick, 1891-1900; Silas O. Hale, 1900-1909; Leroy T. Marshall, 1909-1913; J. Carl Marshall, 1913-1917, and George Sheets, 1917-1919.

#### AUDITOR.

The office of county auditor was at first associated with the office of clerk and recorder, the business of the office not being sufficiently onerous or remunerative to occupy the entire attention of one man. John Paul then was the first county auditor and he served until he left Greene county in 1809. At that time Josiah Grover became clerk, auditor and recorder and he served in this capacity until 1820 when the office of auditor was made a separate office and Peter Pelham became the first county auditor after the office became one within itself. Before 1909 the tenure was three years, but after that date it became two years. The complete list of auditors since the organization of the county until the present time follows:

John Paul, 1803-1809; Josiah Grover, 1809-1820; Peter Pelham, 1820-1821; George Townsley, 1821-1829; William Richards, 1829-1837; T. Coke Wright, 1837-1855; James A. Scott, 1855-1857; Samuel T. Owens, 1857-1861; William C. M. Baker, 1861-1867; Andrew S. Frazer, 1867-1883; William R. Baker, 1883-1896; John H. McPherson, 1896-1902; William Dodds, 1902-1909; Walter L. Dean, 1909-1913; and Amos E. Faulkner, 1913-1919.

#### RECORDER.

The county recorder has charge of all the deeds, mortgages and transfers concerned with all the property, both personal and real, in the county. He has more records to keep and his office is visited with more regularity by the taxpayers of the county than any other.

When the county was organized in 1803, the offices of clerk, auditor and recorder were combined and for the first six years John Paul served in this triplicate capacity. It was not until 1830, which marked the end of the incumbency of Josiah Grover, that the office of recorder became a separate one under J. H. McPherson. The records in the recorder's office, as is true of those in all the other offices of the court house, are kept in excellent condition. The complete list of recorders from 1803 follows:

John Paul, 1803-1809; Josiah Grover, 1809-1830; J. H. McPherson, 1830-1841; James W. Harper, 1841-1844; James A. Scott, 1844-1853; M. W. Trader, 1853-1860; T. Coke Wright, 1860-1866; Hugh McQuiston, 1866-1877; Henry Torrence, 1877-1883; Samuel N. Adams, 1883-1901; M. A. Broadstone, 1901-1909; and Benjamin F. Thomas, 1909-1919.

#### SHERIFF.

The office of county sheriff is directly concerned with the enforcement of the law and is the only one that is attended with any unusual danger to life and limb. In the course of the hundred and fourteen years of its existence, the county has seen scores of desperate criminals handled by its sheriffs, but during all this time the sheriffs have performed their duty without regard to any danger which might be encountered on their part. Especially during the early history of the county when the jails were only improvised structures some criminals have escaped, and as one follows the commissioners' records he finds several orders for the repairs of the breaches in the county bastille which resulted from the successful attempt of some inmate, who had incurred the wrath of the law, to escape. In addition to his duties in maintaining the peace and in apprehending violators of the law, the sheriff of the early days was the collector of taxes. The first record book of the minutes of the court of common pleas contains an order for the clerk to turn over to Nathan Lamme, the first sheriff of the county, the tax lists. The sheriff then notified the residents of a certain community that on a specified day he would be at the house of one of the residents for collecting the tax from the surrounding neighborhood. Since silver specie was scarce in those days and since the tax bill of any person seldom failed to have a fractional cent included, the Mexican dollars then in circulation in those days had to be cut. When the sheriff started to that neighborhood from which he intended collecting the tax on a certain day, he carried in his saddle bag a hammer and cold chisel for cutting the specie of larger denominations into the requisite size. The tenure of the office of sheriff has always been two years and the names of those who have served the county in this capacity are as follows:

Nathan Lamme, 1803-1805; William Maxwell, 1805-1807; James Collier, 1807-1814; John Hivling, 1814-1815; James Popenoe, 1815-1819; John Smith, 1819-1824; James Popenoe, 1824-1830; James A. Scott, 1830-1832; Amos Quinn, 1832-1838; James A. Scott, 1838-1840; W. C. Robinson, 1840-1842; C. L. Merrick, 1842-1844; Daniel Lewis, 1844-1846; Samuel Harry, 1846-1850; C. Wilkins, 1850-1854; Daniel Lewis, 1854-1858; Samuel Crumbaugh, 1858-1862; Henry Barnes, 1862-1866; Robert Stevenson, 1866-1870; William H. Glotfelter, 1870-1874; James Harvey Kyle, 1874-1877; James McCann, 1877-1883; James A. Johnston, 1883-1887; C.

W. Linkhart, 1887-1891; William Dodds, 1891-1895; R. R. Grieve, 1895-1899; E. C. Beall, 1899-1903; F. T. Tarbox, 1903-1907; Howard Applegate, 1907-1913; W. B. McCalister, 1913-1915, and Frank A. Jackson, 1915-1919.

#### STATE REPRESENTATIVE.

Since Greene county was not organized until 1803 it did not receive representation in the General Assembly in the first session, but in the second legislative session of 1803 and 1804 this county with that of Warren, Montgomery, Butler and a part of Hamilton counties was represented by Samuel Dick. It was not, however, until the third session of the Legislature that this county had individual representation in the person of John Sterritt. The following men have represented Greene county in the Legislature since its organization:

Samuel Dick, 1803-1804; John Sterritt, 1805; Joseph Tatman, 1806-1807; John McKnight, 1808; Joseph Tatman, 1809; James Morrow, 1810; John McKnight, 1811; David Huston, 1812; Jacob Smith, 1813; David Huston, 1814; William Tatman, 1815; James Morrow, 1816; Joseph Tatman, 1817; Stephen Bell, 1818; James Popenoe, 1819; Joseph Johnson, 1820; William M. Townsley, 1821-1823; Joseph Kyle, 1824; James B. Gardiner, 1825; Robert Dobbins, 1826-1827; David Huston, 1828; Moses Collier, 1829; Simeon Dunn, 1830-1831; Aaron Harlan, 1832; James A. Scott, 1833; Robert Jackson, 1834; Amos Quinn, 1835; Isaac S. Perkins, 1836-1837; Joseph Kyle, 1838; James A. Scott, 1839-1840; John Fudge, 1841-1842; John Keiler, 1843; Elias F. Drake, 1844-1845; John Keiler, 1846; Charles F. Drake, 1847; Roswell F. Howard, 1848; William Fairchild, 1849-1850; (new constitution, 1851), Joseph G. Gest, 1852-1855; Moses D. Gatch, 1856-1859; Aaron Harlan, 1860-1861; John M. Miller, 1862-1863; Camaralza H. Spahr, 1864-1865; R. F. Howard, 1866-1869; John Little, 1870-1873; Isaac M. Barrett, 1874-1879; J. W. Green, 1878-1882; Joseph G. Gest, 1882-1886; Benjamin W. Arnett, 1886-1888; Andrew Jackson, 1888-1892; John B. Allen, 1892-1894; J. B. Cummings, 1894-1898; J. J. Snider, 1898-1900; Horace Ankeney, 1900-1903; George Little, 1903-1908; James Lewis, 1908-1912; S. C. Anderson, 1912-1914; W. B. Bryson, 1914-1918.

#### STATE SENATORS.

After Greene county was erected into one of the civil divisions of the state in 1803, it was represented in the state Senate, along with Hamilton, Warren, Montgomery and Butler counties, by John Bigger and William C. Schenk, in the second legislative session during the years 1803 and 1804. During the third general session of 1804 and 1805, this county was included

in a senatorial district which also included Warren and Montgomery counties, which district was represented by John Bigger and William C. Schenk. During the fourth session this district, composed of the same counties, was represented by John Bigger and Jacob Smith in the year 1804 and 1805. When the fifth legislative session met on December 1, 1806, there had been a change in the senatorial district which contained Greene county, for to the counties of Warren, Butler, Montgomery and Greene the newly erected county of Champaign was added. The district was then represented in the state senate by Jacob Smith and Richard S. Thomas. At the next convening of the state senate on December 7, 1807, still another change had been made in the district, for to this district which already contained Warren, Butler, Montgomery, Greene, and Champaign counties, Miami county was added. In that session the district was represented by John Bigger and Richard S. Thomas.

From 1808 to 1812, including the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth sessions, Greene county constituted a separate senatorial district, and was represented by Jacob Smith, 1808-1809; John Sterritt, 1810, and Jacob Smith, 1811.

From the eleventh to the thirty-fifth sessions Greene and Clinton counties formed a senatorial district. The state senators during this period from 1812 to 1836 were as follows: Jacob Smith, 1812-1813; William Buckles, 1814-1815; Jacob Smith, 1816-1817; William R. Cole, 1818-1821; John Alexander, 1822-1823; Samuel H. Hale, 1824-1825; James B. Gardiner, 1826-1827; Samuel H. Hale, 1828-1829; William Ellsberry, 1830-1833; Joshua Yeo, 1834-1835.

Greene county was joined with Fayette and Madison counties in 1835. The senators from this district were John Arbuckle, 1836-1838, and Aaron Harlan, 1838-1840.

Beginning with the thirty-seventh session and continuing until the forty-third, Warren and Greene counties formed a senatorial district which was represented in the state senate by Isaac Perkins, 1840-1841; William H. P. Denny, 1842-1843. The senator for 1844 is not on record. Evidently some re-districting had been done, for Warren county was joined with Montgomery in the forty-third session of 1844 and 1845. Greene county apparently was not represented in the state Senate in that year; at least there is no record to the effect of its having a senator, although it was undoubtedly united with Warren.

At the forty-fourth session of the Legislature in 1845-1846 Greene, Fayette and Clinton counties were formed into a senatorial district which was represented by Burnham Martin, 1845-1846, and Franklin Corwin, 1847-1848.

The convening of the forty-eighth session in 1848 and 1849 witnessed another change in the representation of this county in the state Senate, for Warren, Greene and Clinton counties formed a district. This arrangement obtained until 1850, when the constitutional convention met for the drafting of the Constitution of 1851. Aaron Harlan represented this district in 1849 and David Linton in 1850.

During the constitutional convention (1850-1851) Aaron Harlan represented Greene county in the deliberations of that body. In article XI, section 7, of this document the state was divided into thirty-three senatorial districts and the counties of Greene, Fayette and Clinton were erected into the fifth senatorial district. This arrangement continued from the fiftieth session until the seventieth (1852-1892). The senators during this period were the following: John Fudge, 1852; Isaac S. Wright, 1854-1856; Nelson Rush, 1856-1858; James J. Winans, 1858-1860; John Q. Smith, 1860-1862; Mills Gardner, 1862-1864; John F. Patton, 1864-1866; A. W. Doan, 1866-1868; Samuel N. Yeoman, 1868-1870; Moses D. Gatch, 1870-1872; John Q. Smith, 1872-1874; Samuel N. Yeoman, 1874-1876; A. Spangler, 1876-1878; Thomas S. Jackson, 1878-1880; A. R. Creamer, 1880-1882; Coates Kinney, 1882-1884; Jesse N. Oren, 1884-1886; Madison Pavey, 1886-1888; Isaac M. Barrett, 1888-1890; and Jesse N. Oren, 1890-1892.

A new apportionment of senatorial districts was made in the sixty-ninth session of the Legislature wherein the fifth district, of which Greene county is a member, was joined to the sixth. This fifth and sixth senatorial districts is composed of these counties: Fayette, Greene, Clinton, Highland and Ross. This arrangement has continued until the present time. Since 1892 until the present the senators have been the following:

F. G. Carpenter, 1892-1894; James M. Hughey, 1894-1896; Charles F. Howard, 1896-1898; Byron Lutz, 1898-1900; Thomas W. Marchant, 1900-1902; James G. Carson, 1902-1904; Thomas M. Watts, 1904-1906; F. C. Arbenz, 1906-1908; Frank M. Clevenger, 1908-1910; Coke L. Doster and G. W. Holdren, 1910-1912; M. A. Broadstone, 1912-1914; Jesse B. Mallow, 1914-1916, and U. G. Murrell, 1916-1918.

#### GREENE COUNTY OFFICIALS IN 1918.

The following table gives the list of all the county officials in 1918, together with their salaries. The salaries of all county officials are payable at the end of each month and, with very few exceptions, all the officials have a fixed salary. The coroner is the only official in the county whose salary is made up of fees. The county surveyor formerly received certain fees, but the White-Mulcahy act of the 1917 Legislature placed him on a straight salary and provided for the reversion of all fees to the county. He was formerly allowed fifty dollars a month for tax-map drafting. Beginning

with June 28, 1917, the surveyor was placed on a straight salary basis, the same as all other officials of the county except the coroner. Some officials are allowed a *per diem* for the time actually spent; others get only their expenses; still others serve without pay. The following table gives the names of the county officials on April 1, 1918:

<i>Office and Incumbent.</i>	<i>Salary.</i>
Common Pleas Judge, Charles H. Kyle-----	\$4,000
Judge of Probate, J. Carl Marshall-----	2,410
Clerk of Court, George Sheets -----	2,115
Prosecuting Attorney, Harry D. Smith-----	1,600
Auditor, Amos E. Faulkner -----	2,410
Recorder, Benjamin F. Thomas-----	1,600
Treasurer, J. E. Sutton -----	2,410
Surveyor, Joseph M. Fawcett -----	2,633
Sheriff, Frank A. Jackson-----	1,745
Coroner, R. L. Haines-----	fees
Commissioners, George N. Perrill, Robert Corry and R. D. William- son -----	1,345
Infirmary Superintendent, M. S. Smith-----	720
Infirmary Matron, Mrs. M. S. Smith-----	360
Matron of Children's Home, Miss Mary H. Bankerd-----	840
County Superintendent of Schools, F. M. Reynolds-----	2,500
District Superintendents of Schools:	
D. S. Lynn, District No. 1-----	1,679
J. H. Fortney, District No. 2-----	1,800
C. A. Devoe, District No. 3-----	1,600
Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures, Asa Little-----	900
County Board of Elections, J. M. Fletcher, D. O. Jones, Harry Estle, B. K. Ritenour, Roy Hayward -----	100
Jury Commissioners, John Fudge and B. K. Ritenour, per day-----	5
Court Bailiff, C. W. Linkhart -----	960
Court Stenographer, Elsie Canby-----	1,200
Budget Commission, Auditor, Treasurer and Prosecuting Attorney--	none
County Board of Education, O. P. Mittman, A. L. Fisher, J. E. Hast- ings, J. B. Reif and ----- Welsh-----	none
County Board of Visitors, Mrs. Della Snodgrass, Mrs. Carrie I. Rob- ertson, L. P. Hilliard, John W. Hedges, Mrs. Sarah G. Holler--expenses	
Representative, W. B. Bryson-----	1,000
Senator, U. G. Murrell -----	1,000
County Board of Review, Auditor, Treasurer, President of Board of County Commissioners -----	none

To the casual observer the amount that the county pays its officials annually seems enormous, but one week in any office in the court house will convince the most skeptical person that the task of properly administering the affairs of any office is not the sinecure that many think it is. The salary paid John Paul in the initial years of the county's existence for the work he did in attending to the affairs of the auditor's, clerk's and recorder's office seems pitifully small when compared with what even the janitor receives now. But it must be considered how the volume of county business has increased since his time.

The historian has been privileged to examine the records in the court house in the various offices extending over a period of more than one hundred years. They have been kept in a manner which indicates that the officials have been usually competent. The historian takes pleasure in affirming that the manner in which the county records are now kept should be a source of gratification to the residents of Greene county. All the records are carefully indexed and many of the originals have been carefully transcribed, thus showing that this county has been more fortunate in the kinds of officials it has chosen than many other counties. There have been exceptions to the usual competency of Greene county officials. A public office is a public trust and should be so considered. The ordinary citizen has an indefinite notion that any one can fill a county office, no matter what his education may have been or what previous experience he has had. More than mere honesty is required; efficiency is just as necessary as honesty. Many an honest man has made a poor official. Some day man will arrive at a state of political perfection when civil administration will be reduced to a science, and until that day arrives we shall go on in our poor, blundering way.



## CHAPTER VIII

### OLD SETTLERS AND PIONEER LIFE.

Immigration into the Northwest Territory received its initial impetus after the settlement of Marietta in 1788, but the troubles with the Indians deterred all save the most venturesome and daring from coming northward. It was only after Wayne's defeat of Little Turtle at Fallen Timbers in 1794 and the treaty of Greenville in the year following that the stream of immigration into Ohio became steady and ever increasing. Before the settlement of Marietta the only white men who dared to cross the Ohio from Kentucky and try conclusions with the original owners of the soil were such hunters and explorers as Simon Kenton and Daniel Boone and their kind.

The hunter and trapper was different from the later settlers of Ohio. He led a rough, solitary and hazardous existence. He was a picturesque man in his coon-skin cap and blue linsey blouse, with a yellow fringe of deer skin. His breeches and leggings were of buckskin and he was shod with the footwear of the Indian, the moccasin. He was a rover, for he never intended locating on the soil permanently. His long rifle and precious ammunition furnished him with food and furs, the latter his source of income. He sought the wilderness because he loved it and when the vanguard of civilization approached too near him, he plunged more deeply into the woods because conventions were vexatious to him. In the main, these hunters contributed little to the future of Ohio, but sometimes a few would cease their roving and settle down to the development of the state. Several became valued members of early surveying parties and finally well-known and valuable citizens of the commonwealth.

On the heels of the hunter came the first settlers, and, although the life of the latter was less fraught with danger, the early settler had always to keep on the alert to protect his life and property. In the early settlements the first house built was a blockhouse, around which the cabins were grouped, as was the case where Owen Davis built his mill on Beaver creek as shall later be seen. The howling of the wolves and the scream of the panther could ever be heard at nightfall, and the buffalo had scarcely yet become a memory. Women and children and even men were not safe beyond the edge of the clearing in the forest around their cabins, but the long rifle was hung over the door of every pioneer home, within easy

reach of the settler. At night this effective guardian of the early settler stood by his bed and while he was at work in his "deadening" or was wending his way at the head of his family toward the pioneer church, the rifle was his constant companion.

The most potent weapon of the early settler of Greene county was not the rifle, because the danger from the redskin had passed when this section was first settled. The depredations of the Indian had become a memory, furnishing material for thrilling tales around the fireside during the long winter evenings. This county was overgrown with dense timber which made the growing of the crops a task. Armed only with his ax and firebrand the early settler issued into the forest which surrounded his lowly cabin and cleared a place whereon he could produce sufficient sustenance for his family. And with his trusty ax he built his church, his school house and his mill, and before the sound of his steady strokes the bear, the savage, the wolf and the panther fled, never to return.

#### THE COUNTY'S FIRST SETTLERS.

The first settlers of Greene county were from Kentucky, Scotchmen of the good old Seceder stock, whose consistency and persistency was the right kind to make this new country the garden spot it is. Most of the people who settled Greene county originally came from Virginia, but there was quite a sprinkling of Pennsylvanians and Carolinians. They were sturdy men and brave women who entered this new land and remained here to make possible the happiness which their children now enjoy. As a rule they were the merchant, the farmer, the mechanic, the soldier and the politician, ready to enforce and make the law, to build the mill, to protect the country in time of war and to put their capable hands to the plow or to the helm of the ship of state as the time and the exigency might require. Patient, industrious, economical, with a deep love for learning and with a deep reverence for the religion of their fathers, these early settlers were the right kind of men and women to fashion Greene county from the vast expanse of unbroken wilderness which they found here when they arrived.

It is true that there was dross among the gold, for not long after the county was organized it became necessary to tie up a culprit to a tree in the court house yard and whip him. This was pursuant to the orders of the court, because the man punished had stolen a quantity of sole leather. Moreover, the old blockhouse which was near the home of Peter Borders, the house in which was held the county's first court, became the improvised jail for the community. Evidently a need had arisen for such a place in which to lodge violators of the law.

As time passed, the stream of pioneers into Ohio became greater

and thousands loaded themselves and the bare necessities of life into the primitive "arks" or flatboats and floated down the Ohio river to find their new homes. Many of these settlers, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia, became newcomers into Greene county. Their outfit consisted, generally, of the smallest amount of bed clothing, a few iron and pewter utensils, an ax, an auger, a flintlock rifle, a knife and a plow, perhaps. The "arks" were constructed of rough lumber at Pittsburgh or wherever was their starting point. After the emigrant had reached his destination, his rude bark was dismantled and the lumber was sold or was used in the erection of the cabin or barn. The boat was steered by a long oar at the back and the whole conveyance was intended to float with the current. It was easy for one to reach the new lands, but it was difficult for him to return to his old home. On arriving at Cincinnati the new settler of Greene county would load his family and their few belongings into an ox-drawn wagon and strike out northward up through the Miami country to this section.

When the emigrant reached Greene county, he found the older settler ready to give him a helping hand, and the latter would always share his cabin with the newcomer and his family. Children were tucked away in trundle beds or on pallets in the corners of the one room, and clothes and bed clothing were hung up to shield one family from the other as they went to bed. As soon as possible after the emigrant located his holding, which he generally entered at the land office at Cincinnati, his neighbors appointed a day for the house raising and soon he was firmly established in the community.

#### COMING OF THE FIRST WHITE MEN.

More than one hundred and twenty-five years ago, in 1796, a little band of sturdy pioneers set out from Kentucky northward into Ohio, where they intended to find a suitable place to establish their homes. These men were John Wilson and his sons, Amos, George and Daniel, and Jacob Mills. They crossed the Ohio to Cincinnati and struck out northward on the military road which General Wayne had hewed out of the forest three years before, wandered off to the Little Miami river and eventually entered within what later became Sugarcreek township, Greene county. Here they were so impressed with the land that they decided to settle. This land was far different then from what it is now, for it was a vast expanse of unbroken, virgin forest, which had never known the woodsman's ax. These men, who were the kind that carve out empires in the wilderness, did not enter this wild country with the expectation of finding existence an easy one, for they undoubtedly understood the trials, hardships, drudgeries, dan-

gers and privations of pioneer life. Only two years before, 1794, had General Wayne defeated the Indians at Fallen Timbers, and had created in Ohio a semblance of safety for the incoming white settlers. The Indians were sulking and were only waiting for a leader to spring up to lead them against the whites and drive them back across the Alleghanies. These fearless frontiersmen had nothing but the ax and fire with which to clear a place for their patches of corn, beans and pumpkins and to hew a home out of the wilderness. Whenever their larder needed replenishing, they started out in the woods with their long squirrel rifles.

Soon after John Wilson and his sons and Jacob Mills arrived here, they purchased land, the aggregate amount being one thousand acres, which lay at what later became the junction of Montgomery, Greene and Warren counties. Amos and George Wilson purchased a quarter section each, adjoining their father in Greene county, while their brother's holding was found later to lie in Montgomery county. Jacob Mills, who was allowed the surplus in his survey, became the owner of two hundred acres in Warren county. Immediately the little band of pioneers erected a small cabin, April 7, 1796, on the land of John Wilson for the temporary accommodation of all, while they cleared a small tract in each of their holdings on which they planted a few vegetables and a little grain. This cabin, it is believed, was the first one erected by a white man within what is now Greene county.

#### DIFFICULT JOURNEY INTO THE WILDERNESS.

Not wishing to subject their families to the dangers of overland travel when they made their initial trip into the wilderness, the pioneers had left their wives and children back in Kentucky, but when they had finished planting their little patches of beans, corn, potatoes and pumpkins, they returned to the Blue Grass state for their loved ones to bring them out into the new country in Ohio. Procuring an ox-team and a wagon, all five of the pioneers loaded their families and their household goods and few agricultural implements into their lumbering conveyance, and struck out for the Ohio river. They crossed the river at Cincinnati and then they started out northward for the little cabin and clearing in the almost impenetrable woods of what later became Greene county. The journey into the wilderness was not at all an easy one, for the well-improved roads which now characterize the overland transportation of southwestern Ohio were not then in existence. Their only means of access to the north was the military road which General Wayne had cut out of the forest as he moved northward against the Indians in 1794. This road was full of stumps and was little more than a path, but it was nevertheless better than

none. Travel was not without danger and the sturdy pioneers walked along beside the wagon with their long squirrel rifles held in readiness for instant use. Whenever the axle of the wagon mired too deeply for the patient oxen to extricate the pioneer equipage from the mud, the settlers put their shoulders to the wheel to eke out the flagging strength of their plodding oxen. When night came a halt was made at a convenient spring and the good wives would alight from the wagon to prepare the simple but delicious repast which was so characteristic of the pioneer table. On the arrival of the little party in what later became Sugarcreek township, they stowed their goods in the little cabin where all five families remained until by their joint efforts other houses were erected on the holdings of each. This was called the Wilson settlement.

Here the five families comprising the little settlement began the prosperity which the later comers into Greene county enjoyed. They were very advantageously located, for they utilized the bounteous gifts with which nature had surrounded them, and the liberal reward which came to their labor prompted these first settlers to bend their energies toward advancing the settlement of this region. Since the land where they located was heavily wooded, they had much difficulty in clearing sufficient ground for the planting of crops, but they were not dependent alone upon the return from their agricultural pursuits. The forest afforded deer, bear, turkeys, pheasants, squirrels and other game for the pioneer table, and the oaks and beech trees furnished the mast for the pioneer hog, which did not appear to be even a distant relative of the improved breeds now found in Greene county. With these natural auxiliaries, the table of these early settlers was not at all scantily supplied, and with the cornbread, venison, bacon, beans and milk, for they drove a cow or two before them as they entered the country, the Millses and Wilsons had sufficient food to afford complete satisfaction to their appetites which were sharpened by the day's work in the clearings.

In the spring of 1797 the Wilson settlement received a valuable addition to their number in the person of John Vance, the father of Joseph C. Vance, one of the earliest officials of the county, who settled on the present site of Bellbrook. Soon after his coming, Gen. Benjamin Whiteman, Colonel Maxwell, John Paul, who was the proprietor of the site of Xenia, and Owen Davis, who built the first mill in the county, all located on Beaver creek.

#### OWEN DAVIS, THE FIRST MILLER.

One of the first indications of the coming of civilization in the early settlements was the erection of a mill where the pioneer took his grain for grinding, and the miller followed close upon the heels of the first settler. Before the miller made his appearance in the community, the pioneer had

to grind his grain in his own improvised mill which was little better than that of the mound builder or the Indian. Sometimes it was a rude mortar and a stone pestle with which he made his coarse meal, the same to be made into the "Johnnycakes" so common in pioneer days. Since this method of grinding was at best a slow process and since the settler had to work from dawn until dark in clearing his land in the forest so that he could plant his crops, a division of labor was necessary and the miller and his mill became an absolute necessity.

The settlement in Greene county was no exception. When Owen Davis, a native of Wales, settled on Beaver creek in the spring of 1797 he saw the need of the settlers and straightway began the construction of a mill. He had to work on it during his spare moments, for he had to establish himself and family on their farm securely before he could complete his rude mill. Finally, he finished it in 1798, to the gratification of his neighbors and opened it up for business. This mill in no wise approximated the complete flouring plants of the county today, for its patrons furnished the power themselves. The buhrs were of stone, fourteen inches in diameter and three inches thick. Nevertheless, it satisfied the needs of the settlers so well that two blockhouses were built a little east of the mill, so that when danger necessitated, a line of pickets could be extended from one to the other, which would, at the same time, give protection to the mill. This first industrial enterprise of Greene county was located on what is now known as the Thomas Brown farm, a short distance from Beaver creek, near the south line of the Harbine farm. The home of Peter Borders, the house in which the first court in the county was held and which stood on the farm belonging to Owen Davis, stood near the mill. Nearby stood the little log house which served as the jury room. One of the blockhouses, which was a source of protection to this infant industry, later became the county jail.

Since this was the only mill for miles around, its patrons came with their grists from far and near to grind their corn. Oftentimes as many as seven settlers would gather there with their bags of corn, "spell each other at the crank," hear all the neighborhood news, load their meal on their horses' backs and return home. Members of the "Dutch Settlement," in Montgomery county, thirty miles away, would bring their corn to the Davis mill, and after they had ground their meal, they would camp out there that night and depart for home early the next morning.

#### AS PUGNACIOUS AS HE WAS ACCOMMODATING.

Owen Davis was a very genial and accommodating man, often remaining up the whole night to oblige his customers, who had frequently come long distances for their meal. In fact, some of his good neighbors con-

sidered him too accommodating, for he often started his mill on the Sabbath for some of his customers who had brought their corn a long distance to be ground. This Sabbath-breaking outraged the religious sense of some of his neighbors, for they felt that it compromised the Christian reputation of the settlement; accordingly, they threatened the owner of the mill with prosecution if he did not desist from this practice. The miller, knowing that he had the advantage, smiled blandly at the protestations of his neighbors and announced to them that in case any such proceedings were instituted they could carry their corn some thirty or forty miles to the nearest mill or they could grind it themselves with the mortar and pestle in Indian fashion. It is needless to say that his good neighbors desisted from any such action out of consideration for their own convenience, and Owen Davis continued to serve his customers on the Sabbath when they could not come at another time, for he felt that such cases were instances where the "ox was in the ditch."

Moreover, this jolly miller was as pugnacious as he was accommodating, for at the meeting of the first court of common pleas of Greene county he plead guilty on August 2, 1803, to a charge of assault and was duly fined eight dollars. It seems that Davis had charged a settler from Warren county with stealing hogs and the latter had resented the accusation with such vehemence that a fistic encounter resulted, in which the miller had the better of the bargain. After the fight Davis repaired himself to the county seat of justice where tradition says he addressed his son-in-law, Gen. Benjamin Whiteman, who was one of the associate judges, after some such manner: "Well, Ben, I've whipped that hog thief and now what's the damage?" And after paying his fine, he shook his fist at the judge and said, "Yes, Ben, if you'd steal a hog, I'd whip you, too."

In 1805 Davis sold his mill on Beaver creek to Jacob Smith, and removed to Miami township where he spent the rest of his life. There, on the present site of the town of Clifton, he erected the first mill in Miami township, the stone foundation of which can still be seen (1918) near the saw-mill, east of the present Clifton mill. Here he served his customers until his death on February 18, 1818.

#### A LATER OWNER OF THE MILL.

The fact that there was a mill in this county had some influence upon the settlement of this section, and it was not long after it was opened for business that the sound of the ax could be heard above the mill on Beaver creek, where John Thomas, John Webb and John Kizer were erecting their cabins out of the logs which they had cut out of the neighboring forest. Soon, however, the little mill proved inadequate for the increasing trade and it was abandoned by its new owner, Jacob Smith, who erected a larger

one nearby, a frame structure. He converted this into a woolen-mill later. From a woolen-mill it was changed into a cotton-mill and from that back to a woolen-mill.

In October, 1815, James Scott, a young native of Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, came with his brother, John, into Greene county to buy a mill and settle here in business. After a few weeks spent in inspecting the mills in this part of the state, he purchased the old mill and the surrounding property from Jacob Smith. After the purchase was contracted, Scott and his brother started back to their native state, but the horse of the former died before they reached the Scioto river. Scott, who was very fond of fine horses, knew that he could not find one to his liking here in the West, and he decided to go the remainder of the distance on foot. His average rate of travel on foot the rest of the journey was from forty-five to forty-seven miles a day. The trip was not without incident, for when the two brothers reached a point twenty-five miles this side of Pittsburgh, John became ill and their progress was delayed for some six weeks pending his recovery. In the February of 1816, Scott returned to Greene county and took charge of the old mill, making the entire journey on foot, because he did not anticipate the immediate use of a horse after his arrival here. In the fall of 1816 he returned to Pennsylvania on horesback for his bride, Elizabeth S. Shannon, and soon after their marriage the young people moved to this county in a wagon. They lived in the cabin which was the first county seat of justice, and John Scott lived with them. A few days after they had arrived in the county, Scott and his bride went to Xenia to purchase some necessary household furnishings, and among the articles they bought at the store of James Gowdy was a Dutch oven, a three-legged affair which the early settlers made constant use of in the preparation of the homely but nutritious fare of the pioneer days.

The nearest market which James Scott had for the surplus product of his industry was at Cincinnati, and he often sent loads of flour to that young city in an early day by four-horse teams. On one occasion he employed one of his neighbors to take a load of flour to Cincinnati and the trip down was without event. On the return trip, however, the driver's difficulty began. After he entered the forests of Brown and Clermont counties, which were unbroken, he lost his way. He wandered around in the woods there for several days, but finally reached the mill after an absence of three weeks.

#### JAMES GALLOWAY, SR.

Not long after the settlement on Beaver creek, settlers began to enter other parts of what later became Greene county, and one other region of this section was the north central portion of the county. The first settler



in this north central part was James Galloway, Sr., that grand old pioneer who was a very active participant in the making of the early history of the county. James Galloway was born in Pennsylvania on May 2, 1750, and there grew to manhood. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War he enlisted in the American cause and, because he was an expert hunter, he was detailed to furnish game for the unit of which he was a member. While the war was in progress, he married Rebecca Junkin, of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, November 23, 1778, and then removed to Kentucky. There he stayed for several years, associated with Daniel Boone and the other pioneers of that section, and took part in George Rogers Clark's second expedition against Oldtown.

James Galloway's pioneer activities inevitably brought him into conflict with the Indians and incidentally with Simon Girty. At one time when he was unarmed, he met Girty, who fired upon him. Although his wound was dangerous, he wheeled his horse and galloped back to the camp a mile distant, arriving there in a fainting condition. It was found that the ball had passed through the shoulder and lodged near the back of the neck. After carrying the bullet for many years, it was extracted by Dr. Joshua Martin. Even though the ball was a source of great annoyance to him, it served as a barometer to his neighbors, the wound being much affected by the state of the weather.

It was early in the spring of 1798 that James Galloway, Sr., brought his family from Bourbon county, Kentucky, and settled five miles north of the present site of Xenia, west of the Little Miami river, opposite the place where the Miami Powder Mills now stand. His family consisted at first of four sons, James, Jr., Samuel, William, Andrew and one daughter, Rebecca, whose influence on the distinguished Shawnee chieftain, Tecumseh, has already been alluded to. Afterward the family was enlarged by the birth of another son, Anthony, and a daughter, Ann.

It is a matter of interesting conjecture as to how Galloway erected his cabin, for there were no settlers in that part of the county, since his sons were mere children, the oldest, James, Jr., being only a lad of sixteen years. Suffice it to say, the resourceful pioneer soon had a place for his family. Again, the matter of providing food must have been a serious problem to this old settler whose family was quite large, as he could not carry with him many provisions when he entered this wilderness. Fortunately, the surrounding woods were full of game and James Galloway was a hunter almost without a peer.

In those early days the settlers almost universally were moderate users of whisky, but seldom imbibed it to excess. Men in all walks of life had

their supply, and any occasion of note, such as the sale of a farm or the signing of a contract, was duly celebrated by an appropriate drink. As the country became settled, a continuous supply of whisky became a necessity, for, although it was not so essential as bread, it was used to a great extent as a medicine. The country was new and chills and ague prevailed. Accordingly, Galloway erected a distillery on the small stream which formerly crossed the Yellow Springs pike, and there he supplied the wants of the settlers.

In 1802, Galloway and his son, James, started to Louisville to see about the latter receiving the appointment of surveyor, and during their journey they heard Rev. Robert Armstrong preach. It was by the former's influence and persuasion that Reverend Armstrong came to what later became Greene county to minister to the needs of the settlers here. In this manner the first church society was formed here. A detailed description of this occurrence was written by Andrew Galloway, and this appears elsewhere in this chapter. The church society formed was the old Massies Creek congregation.

#### OTHER PIONEERS.

Other families became residents of the northern central part of the county. James Galloway, Jr., the blacksmith, and Adam McPherson had accompanied James Galloway, Sr., from Kentucky, and in the same year, 1798, Thomas Townsley settled near the falls of Massies creek. In 1799 or 1800 George Galloway settled on what became the Yellow Springs pike, just north and west of the Little Miami river. In the opening year of the century, Solomon McCully settled north of the Little Miami river on what is now the Fairfield pike. Later, Arthur Forbes located on the farm which afterward became the holding of Robert A. Mitchell. John, James and David Anderson settled on what used to be called the Kershner farm, on the Yellow Springs and Dayton pike, and Ezekiel Hopping even farther north in the county. Reverend Armstrong bought a tract of three hundred and one acres from James Galloway, Sr., adjoining the holding of the latter, and James Andrews, the father-in-law of Reverend Armstrong, moved northward from Tennessee into Greene county and settled on a farm just west of the holding of Reverend Armstrong. James Andrews had a large family, consisting of Nancy, the wife of Reverend Armstrong, James, William, Rebecca, John, Hugh, George, Ebenezer and Elizabeth. He was a valuable asset to the settlement of the country, because he was a craftsman, making large and small spinning-wheels, stocking plows with wooden moldboards and doing the general repair and wagon-making work of the neighborhood. George Junkin, one of the first blacksmiths of the county, estab-

lished his shop near the Fairfield pike, south of the R. A. Mitchell homestead. In this same neighborhood Matthew Quinn settled in 1803.

When Frederick Bonner, Sr., came to Greene county in 1803, he bought two thousand acres of land, two miles south of Xenia. He was a Methodist and formed the nucleus of the Union settlement of that denomination in this county. He was joined by James Butler, Thomas Perkins and Gray Gary in 1804, and in the following year Tinsley Heath, J. and I. Lloyd and mother, John Fires, Isaac Maitland and John Lewis came to this settlement. The year 1806 saw the arrival of Bennet and Horatio Maxey, and in 1807 Peter Pelham came, at which time the settlement became known as the Union settlement. In 1808 their numbers were increased by the coming of Philip Davis, Theodoric Spain and Alexander Stowel, most of whom had families.

There were other families among the earliest settlers of the county. Those in the Beaver creek, Little Miami and Massies creek neighborhoods were Alexander Forbes, William Jenkins, — Bromagen, Mrs. Creswell, Alexander McCoy, John and James Stephenson, John Townsley, Josiah and Benjamin Grover, William Maxwell, David Puterbaugh, George Wolf, Jacob Nesbitt, James Tatman, Martin Shoup, Nathan and David Lamme, James Mitchell, Isaac Miller, Alexander McHatton, Andrew Stewart and Col. James Marrow.

On Caesars creek Isaiah and William Sutton had settled shortly before 1803. Among the other early settlers of the Sugar creek neighborhood, besides the Vances and the Wilsons, were James Clancy, John and Joseph McKnight, Captain Lamb, William Tanner, James and William Snodgrass, James and Jacob Snowden, Abraham Von Eaton, David McLane and Joseph Robinson.

#### REMINISCENCES OF FREDERICK BONNER, JR.

In the early days when the pioneers began entering this new country which bore so much promise of becoming very fruitful, their means of transportation and communication were very rude and caused innumerable and almost unsurmountable difficulties to stand in the way of the incoming settlers. There were no roads except the narrow paths which were used by the military expeditions which had been sent into the heart of the state against the Indians. It is true that the trails of the redskins sufficed as some means of communication, but their utility was negligible, because they only joined the sites of their former villages. There were no bridges and the fords were dangerous. Nothing remained for the early residents of this county but to strike out across the country, following the line of least resistance, to the site of their intended abodes.

Such travel was fraught with danger as is shown in the following reminiscences of Frederick Bonner, Jr., who related the experience of his father, Frederick Bonner, Sr., one of the early settlers of this county when he traveled northward from Cincinnati through the dense forest which bordered the banks of the Little Miami, toward the territory which was erected into Greene county in the year in which he became a resident of this section.

In the year 1802, father sold his land in Virginia (five hundred acres) for two thousand dollars, and bought two surveys of one thousand acres each, in what was then the Northwest Territory, at a cost of two thousand dollars. Upon visiting it, and finding it well situated, he returned and began preparations for moving on it the following season. On Saturday, April 1, 1803, we started, and went as far as Petersburg, and remained until Monday. Two other families joined us, and our outfit was all put in two covered wagons, including household goods, a chest of carpenter's tools, and a turning-lathe. To each of these were attached four horses, with bells on the leaders. A one-horse wagon carried the provisions, and the females when they became tired of walking. In addition to these we had a canvas to sleep under at night. On Monday we resumed our long journey to the far west, pursuing a route through southern Virginia, which, in a few days, brought us within view of the mountains; first, the peaks of the Blue Ridge, then the Alleghany and Cumberland. Crossing these in safety, we reached Kentucky, passing along the Crab Orchard road. Arriving at Lexington, we pushed on to Cincinnati (then a village of fifteen hundred), crossing the Ohio river at that place, May 10, 1803, and camping near the mouth of Deer creek, then some distance from the village. Next morning we went up the river into the Little Miami valley, crossing the river a little above Cincinnati. Here we encountered our first serious difficulty. The water was high, and running swiftly. Our four-horse wagon crossed without accident; but when the wagon containing the wife of a Mr. Day proceeded as far as the middle, the swiftest part of the stream, one of the horses fell and could not rise. Mr. Day, in attempting to assist, was washed off down the stream with the horses. Father went to his assistance, but the water tripped him up, and he also went struggling down the river to the alarm of all. Fortunately, he got on the same side from which he entered, while Day was still struggling in the river near his horses. Finally, they succeeded in fastening a chain to the end of the tongue, and hitching our horses to it, we drew the wagon out. All this time Day's wife and child were in the wagon, in imminent danger of being capsized into the river and washed away. Mr. Day and family located near the vicinity of this accident and we followed up the river to the present site of Milford, where we found a vacant cabin which father rented for two months. Into this we moved and remained until we could make arrangements to go to our land in Greene county. In June father and some of the boys went to the land, and selected a spot to build a cabin near Glady run, a branch of the Little Miami, which was to accommodate us as our new home in the woods.

SAMUEL PETERSON, A REAL PIONEER.

Although not numbered among the first comers to Greene county, Samuel Peterson was a real pioneer of Greene county, where he lived the rugged life of the early settler. He was a native of Virginia, but he left his native state for Greene county in 1815, where he assisted his brother-in-law, Joseph Bootes, on the latter's farm. He made the long trip on horseback, but after he had remained here during the summer, he returned to the Old Dominion. In the fall following, his father came to this county, bringing with him the

entire family of five sons and two daughters, and located on a five-hundred-acre tract on Caesars creek south of Xenia, which he had previously purchased. Soon after the arrival of the family, one of the daughters married Jonathan Ketterman, a former resident of the county, and Samuel was sent by his father to Chillicothe to buy a new saddle, a present for the bride, before she began her journey back to her native state with her husband.

The father and his five stalwart sons immediately began a vigorous assault upon the dense forest that surrounded them and soon a few acres were cleared and ready to be planted in corn. Markets for this grain were not easily found in those days and if one wished to gain the money equivalent for his crop, he had to pass it through a long process of exchanges. The Petersons first shelled the corn and they then took it to a distillery where they had it made into whisky. The liquor was taken to an iron furnace where it was traded for iron which they sold for a good price. In this manner, decidedly indirect as it was, they found a market for their corn.

Samuel Peterson was a powerful man and his feats of strength made him the envy of the young men far and near. He could outlift any young man in the neighborhood with a hand spike at a log-rolling or house-raising, and could cut the timber and make four hundred and fifty rails in one day.

It was difficult in those early days to market such a valuable product as flour. When Samuel Peterson was only twenty-one years of age he and four other young men each took a four-horse load of flour to Cincinnati from the Oldtown mill for William Beall. They started early in the morning with ten barrels each and they succeeded, by doubling their teams at the hills, in reaching the present location of Spring Valley by nightfall. By the end of the next day, they stopped within a mile of Waynesville, where Beall hired another team which enabled them to push forward more speedily. After they had reached Cincinnati, they were paid one dollar a barrel for the hauling and started home, making the entire trip in eleven days. The miller, however, was not able to dispose of his product in Cincinnati and he shipped it to New Orleans, from which point he walked back home.

In 1882 Peterson was married, after which he lived with his parents for a few years. He then moved to a tract of one hundred acres of unbroken wilderness which was given him by his father. Being a progressive young man, he had previously erected a hewed-log house on his holding, which was considered one of the most imposing structures in the county in those days. As the clearing of his farm progressed very slowly, since he worked by himself, he removed to Xenia in 1825, where he engaged in wagon-making, but he returned to his farm in 1827. He remained there until 1865, bringing his farm to a high state of cultivation. He then sold his farm and bought another about five miles southeast of Xenia. After the death of his wife

in 1872, he removed to Xenia, where he spent the rest of his life in well-earned retirement.

#### PIONEER PRICES.

Jacob Mills, the companion of Daniel Wilson, the first settler of Greene county, left his home in Warren county in 1809 and removed with his family to Greene county, settling near Clifton, where he and his sons, Jacob, Jr., Daniel, Thomas and John literally hewed a farm out of the wilderness which surrounded their cabin home. Indians often visited the Mills home, but they did not offer any resistance to the entrance of the white men. Jacob Mills, Sr., while a resident of Warren county was appointed major of the first regiment of militia that was organized in the state. After his removal to this county, he was elected justice of the peace of Miami township and during his incumbency of nine years, he performed more marriage ceremonies than any other justice in the state.

In the autumn of 1809 an old-fashioned singing-school was taught in Xenia by David Wilson, the oldest son of John Wilson, the first settler in Greene county. Young John Mills was anxious to attend in order to cultivate his musical talent, and to see the town of Xenia, which then consisted of some thirty log houses. The singing-school was conducted in the court house, then just finished, and the pioneer girls came on horseback, escorted by their beaux who gallantly assisted them from their mounts. The young ladies were dressed in linsey and a few of the elite appeared in calico, then the extreme of fashion aspired to by a few. All of this, as well as the session of the singing-school, was a source of great interest to young John Mills, and he sallied forth to see the other points of interest in the town.

He tells us that at that time all the dwellings were made of logs, excepting one frame house and the brick court house. In front of the site of the present Xenia National bank was a stagnant pond of water, which was the common meeting place of all the geese, ducks and hogs of the neighborhood. Opposite the court house stood a hewed-log structure in which Major Beatty kept a tavern. The forest extended almost up to the court house, for on the present site of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church stood a log cabin belonging to a Mr. Barnes, who had erected his residence in the woods. During the winter of the same year, 1809, John Mills had another occasion to visit Xenia, and he saw a business-like young settler selling cider in front of the court house at twelve and one-half cents, one "bit", a quart. He had his stand beside a large stump in the street, by the side of which he built a fire. Being desirous of pleasing his customers as nearly as possible, he heated the cider to a drinkable temperature by placing in the cider a rod of iron which he had heated in the fire. As the rod sizzled in the liquor, he served his patrons.

Prices of many commodities then were much higher than they are now. John Mills related that the material for his wedding suit cost one dollar a yard; the same could now be purchased for a few cents. Labor was cheap, fifty and seventy-five cents being the usual daily wage. Salt, which was so necessary to the early settler, but yet so very dear, was hauled from Cincinnati, four barrels by a four-horse team, and it was sold readily for four dollars a bushel. Calico was from sixty-two cents to one dollar a yard. In those days a man could sell a load of grain and expend the entire price he received for a small quantity of coarse dry goods. Whisky was then only three cents a quart.

#### THE CABIN OF THE PIONEER.

As soon as possible after the settler and his family had entered the settlement and had decided upon the site for his cabin, his neighbors set a day for the "house raising," which was the occasion for a holiday in the settlement. On the appointed day, the people from the surrounding neighborhood, sturdy men, young boys and girls, the pioneer matrons, young swains and laughing maidens, gathered at the site for the establishment of the new home. A party was delegated as wood-choppers whose business it was to fell the trees and cut them to proper lengths, and a man with a team was near at hand to drag to the cabin site the logs as they were cut, but if they were near enough, the logs were "snaked" along by strong hands and a log chain. The logs were then sorted and placed conveniently for the builders, and two or more men who were expert with the ax went in search of a tree whose grain was straight enough for making clapboards. Another party was employed in making puncheons, split logs hewed on the flat side, for the cabin floor. When all was ready for the raising of the house, four experts were placed, one at each corner, to notch and place the logs, while the rest of the party laid the puncheon floor. Three openings were left in the wall, one about four feet wide for the door, another for the window, and a large one for fireplace, on the outside of which the wooden chimney was erected. The chimney was made of sticks laid across each other, with the interstices and the inside plastered up with clay. After the walls were raised to the desired height, the chinks between the logs were filled with "cat" and clay. The clapboard roof was held down by the trunks of small saplings split and laid lengthwise and bound firmly to the structure underneath. Not a nail was used in the structure, wooden pegs being used.

After the rollicking house-raisers had gone home, for building a new settler's cabin was always an occasion of festivity, the new resident of the neighborhood began planning to make his house habitable. He soon fashioned a rude puncheon table and some three-legged stools, for those with

four legs would not adjust themselves to the rough floor. He then made his bed, a low platform built in a convenient corner. As the family grew, a puncheon floor was laid on the rafters, leaving a hole through which a ladder extended into the attic thus formed. Shelves which were supported by wooden pins driven into the walls were placed at convenient points, and on these the pioneer housewife displayed her treasured pewter dishes, basins, and spoons. After the first visit to the nearest supply store, pots were purchased and hung under the shelves. The settler's long rifle hung on a rack behind the door. A rude shovel and a pair of clumsy tongs stood by the wide fireplace. In a corner was the spinning wheel. On pegs driven in the walls hung the extra clothing and bedding of the household. In winter, festoons of dried apples and pumpkin hung from the rafters. Before the day of the candle, the cabin was lighted in the evening by pine or hickory knots, and sometimes the roaring fire in the wide mouth of the fire place furnished the only illumination. Because of the strenuous life of the times and the want of any reason for remaining up at night, the tired pioneer sought his bed early and lighting the cabin was not a necessity.

#### THE PIONEER'S FOOD.

Food was plentiful. Game of all kinds was to be had for the shooting and every settler had a long rifle and knew how to use it. Corn was easily grown and there was always an ample supply of it, even though it had to be eaten, at times, when it was half ground, for the handpower mill of Owen Davis did little more than crack the grains. "Pone" and "dodger" were the staple pastry products, and even though they would not have tickled the palate of an epicure, they very effectually stilled the hunger of the pioneer after a hard day's work in the clearing. Both of these homely products of the pioneer culinary art were about the same in make-up, for they were both made out of corn-meal, baked in a Dutch oven, or on a slab of wood or sometimes on a hot stone. The batter was composed of three ingredients, meal, salt and water, and as long as the salt could be obtained, the family was happy. Meal and water were always to be had, but there were times when it was difficult to obtain salt. When salt was scarce, it often required five bushels of wheat in trade to get one bushel of it. In order to effect a variety, some of the good pioneer women mixed pumpkin with the meal batter and thus concocted some kind of meal-pumpkin bread, the name of which seems to have been lost. Corn was also dried in season and was also converted into hominy, but those persons were indeed wretched who were reduced to "hog and hominy." Corn-meal was also molded into "Johnny" cakes, which were baked on a slanting board before the fire. Sometimes



the batter was packed in cabbage leaves, the product then being called ash cake.

It was several years after the first settlement of the county before wheat was introduced; then some families had wheat bread once a week, usually in the form of biscuits, but most of the wheat was sold.

#### MEAT OBTAINED FOR THE SHOOTING.

Venison, bear meat, squirrel and other game were to be had at all seasons of the year. Deer meat was frequently dried, as was beef, it then being called "jerked" venison, but for many years there was such an abundance of game available that there was little necessity for laying in a quantity of meat. The friendly hard maple tree furnished the only sugar the settlers had, and it was also the means by which many families could barter for commodities which they could not make at home. It is remembered how Nimrod Haddox was engrossed in making sugar on a large scale when he was overtaken by the flood which carried away a great part of his product. Maple sugar always commanded a good price and many settlers derived a larger revenue from their sugar crop, as did Haddox, than from anything else on the farm. Molasses was plentiful and there are people yet who do not dislike corn cakes and genuine maple molasses. Wild honey was also abundant and the finding of a bee-tree was hailed with pleasure in the pioneer household. Robbing the rustic hive was a rather precarious undertaking, but such an operation generally resulted in gaining several bucketsful of honey and more stings from the infuriated insects.

Of garden vegetables and berries there were but few for several years. There is no reference in the early pioneer writings to many of our commonest garden vegetables being in use in the early days of the county. Beets, peas, sweet potatoes, cauliflower, cucumbers and several others were not to be found in the garden of the early settler. Even the potato was not as common as one might think, since it is a native of America, but the friendly pumpkin and a kind of bean, familiarly known as the "cornfield" bean, grew alongside the first cornstalks in the county.

It is not certain when the first stove came into use, but there were only a few in use in the county until the beginnings of the '50s. The first stoves were crude affairs, and from the pictures of the stoves for kitchen use which appear in the local newspapers in the '40s, they must have been hard to handle. Before the advent of the stove, the cooking was all done before the open fire. The three-legged Dutch oven with iron lid, spiders, skillets and the ever-present iron kettle comprised the chief utensils for boiling, roasting, baking and frying. A leg of venison, a wild turkey, or

the ham of a pioneer porker was hung up before the fireplace by a strong cord, and one of the younger members of the household was delegated to turn the roast so that it would be nicely browned on all sides; however, the unlucky youngster was generally as well roasted as the joint of meat. The family washing was usually done in the yard around the cabin, the water being heated in a large kettle. The washing-machine was as unknown as the flying-machine. The same kettle that was used in the washing was used in the spring in making the family soap for the year. Every well-regulated pioneer household had its ash hopper and its barrel into which every fragment of fat found its way.

#### CLOTHING OF THE PIONEER.

The dress of the pioneer was very plain and generally made of the fabric spun by the female members of the family. This was done altogether in the county until Jacob Smith started the first woolen-mill near where the first grain-mill was erected by Owen Davis. Each farmer had his small flock of sheep and his patch of flax. The wool was carded and the flax was prepared, and both were spun into the family linsey of the day. The men generally sowed the flax, gathered and broke it, and left the women the succeeding steps in its transformation into material to be made into wearing apparel, namely, pulling, spreading to water, rolling, taking up, swingling, hackling, spinning, weaving and making into garments. It surely followed that the pioneer housewife was very economical in cutting out a garment so as to save as much goods as possible. It was seldom that the stoutest of our pioneer grandmothers ever required more than six yards for making a dress for themselves, and they generally had a remnant left for repairs.

In fact, everything that the early settlers wore was made in the home: shoes to head gear, socks to mittens, pants to shirt. In addition to wool and flax, clothing was made of hemp and cotton and a mixture of flax and wool or linsey-woolsey. Many a pioneer had breeches (or pants, the word trousers never being used) made of leather, sometimes tanned and sometimes not. And instances are on record where the Spanish-needle was treated as flax and a very substantial cloth made from its fiber. Nearly all classes of people of both sexes wore moccasins of buckskin in winter, while the summer season saw the entire population barefooted. Footwear was accounted such a burden (or it might have been an economical measure), the pioneer lasses would carry their shoes to church, stop just before arriving at their destination at some convenient place along the road and put on their shoes and stockings. After church they would take them off again and carry them home.

Everyone of the period prior to the Civil War can recall three kinds

of cloth—linsey-woolsey, jean and flannel—made on the old home loom. Jean was given its beautiful brown color by the juice of the walnut hull and the famous “butter-nut” shirt was known throughout the Mississippi valley. The “pepper-and-salt” woolen cloth was made by using white wool for the warp and black wool for the woof. Every family had its spinning-wheel, reels, looms, warping-bars, winding-blades and all the necessary paraphernalia for carding, spinning and weaving. For at least a quarter of a century after Greene county was settled, every family commonly carded the wool for the family clothing on little cards ten inches long and four inches wide. The children picked the wool and helped to card it, but it was left to the mother and her daughters to do the weaving.

#### AMUSEMENTS OF THE PIONEERS.

Pioneer life in Greene county was far from being grave and leaden, for the early settlers seasoned their toil with the wholesome pleasures of their day. Harvestings, husking-bees, quiltings, house-raisings, apple-peelings, and, in any prolonged task, the neighbors came in to help, and this was always the signal for a frolic. They did not forget the unfortunate, for if any neighbor was sick or in need, all hands came out and garnered his grain. The amusements of the early settlers were simple. There were no moving picture shows to attend; no shows of any kind, and the many games which we have today were then unknown. Then there were singing-schools, spelling-matches and “ciphering” contests which were mental diversions that were a source of more or less amusement to the young folk. Some danced at their homes and others thought the dance was to be utterly tabooed. But many of the best people danced to the music of the fiddle—never the violin. The Virginia reel, the schottische, the minuet and the waltz were the favorite dance measures. There was a distinctive “hoe-down” and a number of jigs and shuffles, which were always called for at every gathering. Jumping, running, foot races, wrestling and throwing weights were indulged in whenever young men congregated at log-rollings, house-raisings, and the like. It was a great honor to be known as the best wrestler (always called “rastler”) in the community, and every young man thus honored prided himself on his ability to throw his adversary with “overholds” in what was called the “side rastle.” Fist fights were common, as occurred between Aaron Beall and Benjamin Kizer at Oldtown after drill in 1806. Scientific boxing was unknown and boxing gloves would have been laughed at throughout the entire county. As it used to be expressed, “they went at it hammer and tongs.”

The event in the fall harvest was the husking-bee, which was an occasion of jollity and festivity, in which young and old, little and big, took part. Before the appointed date for the affair, the boys had gone through

the corn field and had snapped off the ears in the husk. They had brought the spoil in from the field and had heaped it high in the barn yard. The pile was from four to five feet high and was built symmetrically from end to end so that it could be equally divided by the rail which was laid across the middle. In the evening the husking party assembled in the moonlight. Two captains, already chosen, selected their adherents alternately from the crowd until every one was chosen, and then some trusted person from each party inspected the pile for any inequalities in its symmetry. The middle of the pile was then determined and then it was cut at that point. When all was ready each party fell to husking, throwing the ears over the pile in front and the husks behind. Each side worked feverishly, some members pausing perhaps to take a nip from a passing jug. Throughout the contest the captains urged on his helpers by voice and example, and the side which finished first raised their leader to their shoulders with shouts of triumph. The triumphant shouts were the signal to the mothers, sisters and sweet-hearts who were preparing the feast for the exhausted huskers that the pioneer banquet had soon to be ready. Soon they appeared and sat down before the bountiful repast which melted before their sharp appetites. The tables were soon cleared and some thoughtful swain who had brought his fiddle along drew the bow across the strings and struck up a merry tune. Feet began to move to the music and then the dance began. Some fortunate young husker who had saved the red ears which he had husked, now claimed his right of kissing the blushing young pioneer damsel of his choice amid the banterings and teasing of his companions. It was not until a late or, more properly, an early hour was reached, that the party wended its way homeward, exhausted but happy after the night of pleasure.

#### WROUGHT BETTER THAN THEY KNEW.

Thus the early settlers of Greene county lived their lives which were ever full of dreary toil, but withal replete with their pursuit of the wholesome pleasures which added sufficient color to their simple lives. They were not worried by the fluctuations of the market, nor were the good wives perplexed by the radical changes in the style of their garments. Their lives when compared to the hustle and bustle of today seem drab, but they were working with a definite and wonderful objective in view, the making of the wilderness a habitable place in which their children could live in peace and plenty. However, it can be truthfully said that few of those sturdy old pioneers worked with this as a conscious objective. They wrought well—perhaps better than they knew. The heritage of prosperity and plenty which they left the present generation should be preserved and defended by the present citizens of the county and handed down to posterity as unsullied as it was bequeathed to them.

## CHAPTER IX

### TOWNSHIPS OF GREENE COUNTY.

Greene county now has twelve townships, although during its career of one hundred fifteen years there have been fourteen erected within its borders. The setting off of Champaign county in 1805 bereft Greene county of one of its townships, its largest, Mad River, and the erection of Clark county in 1817 caused another, Vance, to become a memory.

The large expanse of territory which composed this county in 1803 was divided by the associate judges at their first meeting on May 10, 1803, into four townships; namely, Sugarcreek, Caesarscreek, Mad River and Beavercreek townships. At that time Sugarcreek township embraced all of what is now included in that township, nearly all of Spring Valley township and the southwest part of Xenia township. Caesarscreek township included all the southeastern part of the county and also the site of the city Xenia. Mad River township was the largest one of all, for it began at the southern boundary of the ninth range in what is now Clark county, about two miles north of Osborn, and extended to the northern limits of the state the full width of the county of Greene. Beavercreek township was the second largest one, including all that part of the county north of Sugarcreek and Caesarscreek and south of the southern boundary of the ninth range in Clark county. It then contained the greater part of the site of Springfield.

As the days passed, and the increase in the population demanded the erection of administrative divisions of the county, other townships were established. Xenia township was established in 1805, Bath township in 1807, Miami township in 1808, Silvercreek and Ross townships in 1811, Vance township in 1812, Cedarville township in 1850, New Jasper township in 1853, Spring Valley township in 1856 and Jefferson township in 1858.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

Ohio rejoices in a multiplicity of township officials and the list seems to be increasing instead of decreasing. At the head of the official family of each township is a group of five officials—three trustees, a clerk and a treasurer—while below this group is a corps of justices of the peace, a posse of constables, a set of assessors—and, lastly, a group of highway superintendents. In addition to this lengthy list of officials, there are various and

sundry other positions which come under and are subsidiary to the highway superintendent.

The duties performed by the three trustees, the clerk and the treasurer, are all in the hands of one man in the townships of Indiana. Besides, the Indiana trustee has charge of all the schools, selects all the teachers and performs most of the duties of the township highway superintendent in Ohio, for which the Indiana trustee receives two dollars a day for each working day in the year. This by way of comparison.

In Ohio each of the three trustees receive one dollar and a half a day for each day employed in township work, and fifteen minutes is a day in the eyes of the law. Each township treasurer is allowed two per cent. on all the orders issued by him and this averages from one hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars per annum. Beginning on January 1, 1918, the trustees will receive two dollars and a half a day. The clerks are paid about one hundred and fifty dollars a year on the average. The justices of the peace and constables are purely fee officers and their remuneration frequently approaches the point of the irreducible minimum. In fact, it is difficult to secure competent justices of the peace and they are constantly resigning so that it is difficult to keep the legal number in office. There is one township in Greene where it has been found to be impossible to find any one to serve in this capacity. Calls for the services of the township constable are very few. The township assessors are allowed four dollars a day and in the spring of 1917 in Greene county they were allowed thirty days to complete their work, but many of them performed all their duties in less than a week.

Under the Cass act of 1915 each township was divided into a definite number of road districts, each of which was under the supervision of a township highway superintendent, but the White-Mulcahy act of 1917 revised the former act to some extent bringing about a reorganization of the township administration of roads. Until lately the administration of roads was in rather an uncertain state in Greene county, but the advent of the newly elected township officials into office on January 1, 1918, has operated to put into force the provisions of the last named act.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS IN 1918.

The appended statement gives the trustees, clerks, treasurers, assessors, justices of the peace and constables of each township, all of whom took office on January 1, 1918:

*Bath*—Trustees, C. A. Wilson, C. L. Hoagland, John S. Hower; clerk, R. O. Routzong; treasurer, Harry E. Frahn; justice of the peace, A. L. Shuey; constables, Charles B. Snyder, M. W. Lasure, W. A. Schneider; assessor, William Sipe.

*Beavercreek*—Trustees, A. D. Kendig, S. W. Hartman, David Archer;

clerk, Lewis E. Stewart; treasurer, J. E. Munger; justice of the peace, C. C. Coy; constables, Jacob Stewart, G. E. Greene; assessor, G. E. Greene.

*Caesarscreek*—Trustees, C. N. Bales, A. A. Conklin, L. R. Jones; clerk, C. W. Mussetter; treasurer, G. M. Fawley; justice of the peace, Charles I. McPherson; constables, W. L. Copsey; assessor, W. E. Mussetter.

*Cedarville*—Trustees, M. W. Collins, R. S. Townsley, H. A. Turnbull; clerk, Andrew Jackson; treasurer, W. H. Barber; justice of the peace, Andrew Jackson, W. P. Townsley; constable, H. A. McLean; assessor, C. E. Cooley.

*Jefferson*—Trustees, R. W. Oglesbee, C. E. Hargrave, S. H. Vanniman; clerk, W. L. Cline; treasurer, H. C. Fisher; justices of the peace, L. S. O'Day, E. A. Story; constable, F. L. Huffman; assessor, Charles Cline.

*Miami*—Trustees, F. W. Johnson, Edward Meredith, M. W. Ault; clerk, Towne Carlisle; treasurer, S. W. Cox; justices of the peace, C. R. Baldwin, William Heffner; constables, Charles Coffman, A. J. Holland; assessor, J. A. Tibbs.

*New Jasper*—Trustees, Ezra Brown, W. J. Fudge, E. L. Hagler; clerk, O. M. Spahr; treasurer, Charles N. Fudge; justices of the peace, W. C. St. John, John Shirk; constables, none elected in 1917; assessor, Marshall Brown.

*Ross*—Trustees, John Shane, Theodore Hughes, S. K. Turnbull; clerk, L. R. Rogers; treasurer, J. S. Lackey; justices of the peace, S. J. Tarr; M. B. Swaney; constable, Henry Cox; assessor, Edwin Klontz.

*Silvercreek*—Trustees, C. D. Lackey, Seymour Wade, Frank Johnson; clerk, Frank Shigley; treasurer, Roy J. Moorman; justice of the peace, none elected in 1917; constable, A. Zerner; assessor, John Q. Ross.

*Spring Valley*—Trustees, John Walton, John W. Soward, Leander Spahr; clerk, Arch Copsey; treasurer, Ray Eagle; justices of the peace, W. E. Guffy, J. W. Fulkerson; constable, William Copsey; assessor, Joseph Mason.

*Sugarcreek*—Trustees, M. B. Spahr, Frank Wardlow, George Penewit; clerk, W. W. Tate; treasurer, H. M. Turner; justice of the peace, Oliver Watson; constable, R. H. Hopkins; assessor, Walton Spahr.

*Xenia*—Trustees, Coleman Heaton, John W. Hedges, Fred Toews; clerk, Harvey Elan; treasurer, Levi Rader; justices of the peace, J. H. McPherson, J. E. Jones; constables, J. C. Andrews, Lester Arnold; assessor, J. E. Watts.

#### RECORDS OF THE VARIOUS TOWNSHIPS.

The following chapters devoted to historical sketches of the present twelve townships of the county are given in chronological order. The records are complete in some townships, but only partially so in others. Where the original petition is missing the record book of the commissioners

gives the exact date of the erection of the township and its original bounds. There were four townships, however, that were not erected as the result of petitions, the four original ones, Mad River, Sugarcreek, Beavercreek and Cæsarscreek township, being arbitrarily set off by the associate justices on May 10, 1803. One chapter is devoted to the two townships of the county which now no longer exist, Mad River and Vance townships.

In these sketches of the townships the churches, lodges, schools, banks newspapers and larger towns are not to be discussed, being included in special chapters.



## CHAPTER X

### MAD RIVER AND VANCE TOWNSHIPS.

When Greene county was organized in 1803, the General Assembly extended its northern limits to the northern boundary of the state. The county then was a narrow strip of territory about twenty-five miles wide which extended from the northern boundary of Warren county to the northern limit of the state. Of course, it was not the intention of the General Assembly that Greene county should henceforth retain this great extent, for in the act creating Greene, Montgomery, Warren and Butler counties, section 7 enacted that all the inhabitants in the newly erected counties of Montgomery and Greene living north of the south boundary of the ninth range of townships should be exempt from any tax for the purpose of erecting court houses and jails in those counties. Obviously then it was the intention of the Legislature that the natural northern limits of Greene county would be the southern boundary of the ninth range. On the other hand the Legislature had a definite purpose in seeing to it that the county should extend to the north boundary of the state, because that vast northern part of the territory of the Commonwealth was unorganized and not under any civil jurisdiction. This act then placed a semblance of civil authority over this section. Such an arrangement courted the organization of new counties out of the northern part of what was then Greene county, and this county was destined to maintain its extensive limits for only two years, for in 1805 Champaign county was erected, which caused Greene county to recede within the limits which the General Assembly intended for it, the southern boundary of the ninth range.

The foregoing arrangement compelled the court of common pleas of Greene county to organize this territory north of the southern boundary of the ninth range and thus it was that this county erected the township of Mad River, only to lose it by the organization of new counties in the north.

#### ONE OF THE FOUR ORIGINAL TOWNSHIPS.

Mad River township was the largest of the four original townships organized by the court of common pleas on May 10, 1803, when the associate judges, William Maxwell, Benjamin Whiteman and James Barrett, met at the house of Owen Davis on Beaver creek in order to organize the county in accordance with the act creating the county. In fact these

four townships were the only ones erected by the associate judges, for on the following year they were relieved from this duty by the commissioners, which office was established by an act of the General Assembly on February 14, 1804. After the judges had been duly installed in their official positions they then set about the laying off of the county into townships. When they had described the limits of Sugarcreek and Cæsarscreek townships, they erected Mad River township in accordance with the following order :

All that part of the County lying North of the South boundary of the Ninth Range of Townships shall compose a third Township, called and known by the name of Mad River. Elections in said Township shall be held at the house of Griffith Foes, in the Town of Springfield.

This south boundary of Mad River township, the southern boundary of the ninth range of townships, extended east and west coincident with the National road, through the city of Springfield. It is needless to say that it was the largest township in the county, its width being that of the county from east to west and its length extending from its southern boundary to the northern limits of the state.

#### THE FIRST ELECTION IN MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP.

In accordance with the order of the associate judges the election was held in Mad River township at the house of Griffith Foes in Springfield on June 25, 1803, for the purpose of selecting three justices of the peace, overseers of the poor, constables, a road master, house appraisers, listers of taxable property, a township clerk, fence viewers, township managers and the electors at this time also voted for a congressman. The judges of this election were James Woods, John Clark and Thomas Redman, and the clerks were John Dougherty and Robert Lowry. The poll-book of that election shows the following to be the qualified electors of the township at that time :

Elijah Adamson, William Aims, Ezekiel Arrowsmith, Christian Aldrich, Paul Butler, Abner Barrett, James Barlow, Henry Bailey, Elijah Chapman, William Chapman, Thomas Cowhitch, John Clark, Walter Craig, Joseph Dickason, Amos Derrough, Isaac Dillon, Archibald Dowden, John Doyle, Thomas Davis, John Dougherty, James Demint, Christopher Endrick, Griffith Foes, John Forgey, John Gard, Henry Huffman, Elijah Harbour, John Humphreys, Abraham Inlow, Joseph Hill, John Jackson, Thomas Hardin, William Kenton, Simon Kenton, Solomon Kelley, John Kelley, Abner Kelley, Barton Lovett, Arthur Layton, Archibald Lowry, William Layton, Joseph Layton, John Laferty, David Lowry, Robert Lowry, Alexander Miller, James Mitchell, William McDaniel, James McPherson, Adam McPherson, John McPherson, Robert McKenney, Christopher McGill, William Moore, Joseph McKenney, James Miller, Joseph McLain, Daniel

McKennon, Jonathan Milholland, John Miller, Thomas Moore, Christly Miller, Samuel McCollough, William Owens, Daniel Philips, William Palmer, William Powell, John Paul, Joseph Reed, Daniel Robinson, Robert Renneck, William Ross, Thomas Reed, Richard Robinson, Daniel Rector, Thomas Rogers, Charles Rector, Hugh Reed, John Rigdon, John Runyan, Stephen Runyan, Patrick Rock, Jacob Robinson, Phelie Rock, Thomas Redman, Jeremiah Still, William Smith, Joseph Sutton, James Smith, Paulus Stewart, John Tucker, John Turman, John Tellis, John Taylor, James Ward, William Ward, William Thomas, Thomas West, William Woods, James Woods, Samuel Whiteman, Thomas Pierce and Hugh Cameron. In all there were one hundred and fifteen electors who took part in this election and this list enables the reader to determine the names of the earliest settlers of Mad River township.

The result of this election shows that William McMillan received 50 votes, William Goforth, 55; Elias Langham, 1, and Jeremiah Morrow, 1. The associate judges had already determined that Mad River township should have three justices of the peace and Adam McPherson, Jonathan Millholland and Thomas Layton were the three candidates who received the highest number of votes. For overseers of the poor, Simon Kenton received 60 votes; John Humphreys, 71; Thomas Pierce, 21; Solomon Kelley, 5; Archibald Lowry, 12; Charles Rector, 11; John Clark, two; Thomas Redman, one; Elijah Adamson, 40, and Thomas Davis, 66. The following was the vote for constables: John McPherson, one; Robert McKenney, 57; Joseph Reed, 98; William Chapman, 17; Thomas Moore, 66; William Ross, 17; John Gard, nine; Robert Renneck, five; James Demint, one; Jonathan Millholland, two; Paul Butler, two, and Henry Huffman, one. From a list of ten candidates William Ward was elected road master by a majority of twenty over his nearest competitor. Thomas Lowry and John Dougherty were elected house appraisers, and the latter was also made the lister of taxable property in the township. Robert Lowry was elected township clerk. The vote for fence viewers stood thus: James Demint, 61; Alexander Miller, three; John Clark, 34; Charles Rector, three; William Moore, two; Thomas men became township managers: William Kenton, Elijah Adamson and John Kenton, two; Griffith Foos, 23, and William Ward, two. The following Humphreys.

#### THE FIRST ENUMERATION IN MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP.

After John Dougherty had been elected lister of taxable property in Mad River township, he set about his duties of compiling the list of the "free male inhabitants above the age of twenty-one" in that civil division of

the county. He began this work in August, 1803, and certified the list to the associate judges on September 7, 1803. Since this township extended so far northward, one might think that the task of collecting this data was a herculean task, when it is considered that the means of communication in those days prevented easy access to the different parts of the county, but the inhabitants of Mad River township in those days had chiefly settled in its southern portion, around the village of Springfield and as far northward as the site of the present city of Urbana, Champaign county. Thus the task was not so great as it might seem on first consideration.

This list is of historical interest to the present, for by it one is enabled to add to the list of early settlers who were included in the poll-book of the first election. The numerous additions leads the investigator to think that either the early residents of Mad River township were very careless about their exercise of the right of suffrage, or the settlers in this district had had numerous accessions since the election in June of 1803. Possibly both in equal measure accounted for the enlarged list which was submitted by Dougherty in September, 1803. The additional names of old settlers obtained from the enumeration sheets of the lister follow:

Allen Adair, Frederick Ambrose, Isaac Anderson, Edward Armstrong, Adam Allen, Seth Arnett, George Bennett, Robert Boyce, Thomas Burt, James Bishop, George Brown, John Crossley, Elijah Chapman, Cornelius Carter, Elnathan Corry, John Dawson, Domnic Donley, Jonathan Donnell, John Denny, Nathan Fitch, Daniel Goble, Aaron Gooden, Enos Holland, William Holmes, Henry Huffman, Silas Johnson, Jonathan Johnson, Joseph Kizer, James McDonald, William McDonald, Archibald McKinley, Robert McMains, William McColloch, George Manford, Burrel Mills, Edward Mercer, Hinian Nichols, Thomas M. Pendleton, William Palmer, Eleazer Piper, Daniel Philips, William Paul, James Paul, David Prunty, James Robetelle, Jacob Read, John Read, Mathias Ross, Benjamin Ross, William Rhodes, Thomas Robinson, Joseph Simons, Jacob Server, Thomas Scott, James Scott, Charles Stoss, Henry Sturm, Lewis Summers, Sampson Tolbert, Benjamin Turman, Isaac Turman, Christopher Wood, Joseph Whittlesey, Adam Wise, Hugh Wallace, Thomas Wallace, Basil West, Christopher Weaver, William Weaver, John Welsh, John Wirt, Thomas Lowry, Joseph Layton, Robert Layton and Joseph Lefaw.

There were several of these early residents of Mad River township who exercised a strong influence in the development of the counties of Clark and Champaign, which were formed in great part from this early township of Greene county. Among these should be mentioned, Simon Kenton, William Ward, James McPherson, James Demint, Griffith Foes and Archibald Lowry.

## WILLIAM WARD.

William Ward, one of these early residents of Mad River township, was the founder of Urbana, Champaign county, and the proprietor of the site of that city. He was born in Greenbriar county, Virginia, December 14, 1752, and died on December 24, 1822. He was a soldier of the Revolution and was a lieutenant in the battle of Point Pleasant, where his father, Capt. James Ward, fell. After the war he returned to Virginia where he married. Later, about 1790, he removed to Kentucky and settled near Maysville.

It was the search for the family of his brother, John Ward, that drew William Ward into the Ohio country, the former having been captured by the Shawnees in one of their raids into the land of the white man. William Ward persuaded Simon Kenton to accompany him into the Mad river country, since he heard that the family of his brother resided thereabout, and when the two men arrived in the country north of the site of Springfield, they were so delighted with the land that they decided to enter tracts in this section. They returned to take up their residence here in 1802. Ward made his home about four miles north of the site of Springfield.

After Champaign county was organized in 1805, Ward, with true Yankee shrewdness, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land which he considered to be the most acceptable site for the new county seat, and then he approached the commissioners of the new county with a proposition to locate the seat for the new county on this tract. The scheme met with the approval of the commissioners and Ward became the proprietor of the new county seat of Urbana, and he doubtless found the venture a lucrative one.

Ward soon removed to Urbana and there he made his home until his death in 1822. He was an old-school Virginia gentleman, who believed in good farming and he kept the best breeds of cattle and horses. His manners were stately and decorous and he was kind to his neighbors and liberal to strangers needing assistance in a new home. He was a Presbyterian as was his family, but he freely entertained ministers of all denominations in his home.

## JAMES DEMINT.

Little is known of James Demint save that from the old records on file in the court house he was known to have been the proprietor and owner of the original site of Springfield. Obviously this early resident of Mad River township fully realized that at no distant date the large northern civil division of Greene county would be divided into other counties. He sought to forestall such a situation by causing to be laid out the city of Springfield, the plan of which was certified on September 5, 1803. The original plat of the city is now on file in Vol. 9, page 520, of the deed record in the office of the recorder of Greene county.

It is certain that from the first Springfield was intended to be a county-seat town, for this old plat shows a public square to be laid out. Originally the town contained ninety-six lots, all of which contain seventy-two perches, excepting the eight half lots surrounding the public square. The streets were all four poles wide and the alleys all one pole in width. Following the plat are the following words:

Before me, Joseph Layton, a justice of the peace in and for the County of Greene, personally came James Demint of the county aforesaid, and acknowledged the within plat of the town of Springfield to be true and accurately laid off as it within is presented. Acknowledged before me this 12th day of September, 1804.

JOSEPH LAYTON.

The plat was not filed with the recorder of Greene county until 1824 as is shown by the following:

In presence of Griffith Foos and Isaac Newland the within old plat of the town of Springfield, Clark county, Ohio, was recorded in my office on the 28th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1824, in obedience to an act of the General Assembly of the said state, passed February 2, 1824.

JOSIAH GROVER,

Recorder, Greene County, Ohio.

#### TAXATION IN MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP.

After the election was held in Mad River township, the court of common pleas laid the first levy on the county, and John Dougherty, the lister for the township, brought in the report that there were within the borders of the township two hundred and forty-three horses and four hundred and ninety-two cows. Simon Kenton owned a mill valued at one hundred and fifty dollars; William Chapman, one at one hundred dollars; Jonathan Donnell, one at sixty dollars; James Demint, one at twenty-five dollars and Isaac Zane, one at two hundred and fifty dollars.

Since section 7 of the act creating Greene county exempted all the residents of Mad River township from paying taxes for the purpose of erecting public buildings, the common pleas court ordered that the residents of this township should pay two cents less on each horse and one cent less on each cow, which is to say that the tax in Mad River township on each horse would be twenty-eight cents and eleven and one-half cents on each cow. The levy on mills and houses of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars value was not reduced. It thus followed that the quota of this township to the county's funds totaled one hundred and forty-three dollars and ninety-nine cents.

#### TAVERNS IN MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP.

At the second meeting of the court of common pleas of Greene county on August 4, 1803, Griffith Foos and Archibald Lowry were granted licenses to keep taverns in the town of Springfield, for which they paid into

the treasury of the county four dollars, plus the legal fees. By this time Springfield was becoming a bustling town and the numerous settlers who were going northward into the new country, had to find some place for shelter while enroute to their new homes.

One of the most picturesque of all the tavern keepers in Greene county at that time was James McPherson who lived about twenty miles north of Springfield. On June 13, 1804, he presented a very interesting petition to the court of common pleas of Greene county for the right to keep tavern. His awkward grammar, bad spelling and faulty punctuation indicate that his ability to frame petitions was far less than his prowess in pioneering and fighting Indians. The petition is reproduced verbatim:

To the Worshipful Court of Greene County  
Humbly Sheweth

That whereas your petitioner hath been Solicited from time to time by travellers from remote distance, as well as adjacent, that hath been and now continuous to explore the flourishing & fertile Lands of Mad River, to ask Licence from the Honorable Bench to keep a Public House of entertainment, that of such a Place of Conveniency for a recourse for shelter hath often suffered in the Recogniting in the said Tour thro the extensive Country, & being as yet almost unsettled for many miles from my dwelling; and besides all this he further adds with said lawful indulgence must sustain great loss, for am at times much crowded with sojourners to the dissatisfaction of private life with no manner of profit out of the attending fatigue, his habitation being north from Springfield 20 miles, from Chillacotha 60 miles west, Autaway Town 40 miles North west, from Mr. Isaac Zane's 10 miles west; your Petitioner hopes to Obtain, and of your Clemency, the said Licence, and as in duty Bound Shall pray—

Peter Oliver

Thomas Davis

Joseph Sutton

John Fisher

Lewis Sutton

George M. Barnett

William Moore

Simon Kenton

J. L. Galloway

Lewis Davis

JAMES MCPHERSON.

May 20, 1804.

This gives one an idea of the extent of Greene county at that time, since the habitation of James McPherson was twenty miles north of Springfield. It is quite possible that his house was the outpost of the civil jurisdiction of this county at that time. His dwelling was located approximately at the line between Logan and Champaign counties. But the most interesting thing about this petition is the petitioner himself. James McPherson, or "Squa-laka-ke" (meaning the "red-faced man"), was a native of Carlisle, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, but his wandering disposition drew him westward and incidentally into conflicts with the Indian owners of the soil. At one time when he was connected with a minor military or scouting expedition against the redskins, he was captured by the Indians at or near the mouth of the Great Miami. Since his captors were in the employ of the British at Detroit, he eventually was turned over to them, and for many years he was

an emissary of the British Indian department under the leadership of Elliot and McKee. During his service with the British he married an American woman who had been captured by the Indians, and after Wayne's treaty in 1795 he became connected with the Indian department of the United States government. He continued in charge of the Shawnees and Senacas at Lewistown until his removal from office in 1830, a few years after which date his death occurred.

#### THE END OF MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP.

As was shown before it was not the intention that Greene county should henceforth retain the immense territory which was conferred upon it at its erection, and on February 20, 1805, Champaign county was established by an act of the Legislature, and the first meeting of the board of associate judges took place at the house of George Fithian in Springfield on April 20, 1805. The county line then passed a short distance south of Springfield on the line between the eighth and ninth ranges. It extended east and west about two miles north of the present site of Osborn, four miles north of Yellow Springs, about four and three-fourths miles north of the bank of the Little Miami and the present corner of Greene and Clark counties at Clifton, and five and one-half miles north of the present southeast corner of Clark county. Thus was Mad River township cut off of Greene county, which was relieved from further civil jurisdiction over the vast territory which formerly belonged to it. Be it as it may, Greene county has a just claim on those old pioneers who later made their homes in Champaign, Clark and Logan counties. In fact Simon Kenton at one time operated a small shop on the public square of Xenia.

#### VANCE TOWNSHIP.

Another township of Greene county that has ceased to exist is Vance township, which was erected out of Miami township in 1812. Vance township was located in the northeast corner of the county, north of what is now Ross township. It was bounded on the east by Madison county, on the north by Champaign county, Clark county not being erected at that time; on the west by Miami township, and on the south by Ross township. It received its name from the fact that there were five of its residents whose name was Vance and who, in all probability, had much to do toward influencing the county commissioners to erect the township.

There is little of historical matter concerning Vance township that has come down to the present, its career lasting only six years, and one is able to find only fugitive references to it in the records. It was at the court house in Xenia in a meeting of the commissioners on October 31, 1812, there being present Thomas Hunter, Peter Pelham and Benjamin Grover, that the township was erected, pursuant to the following order:



Ordered that Miami township be divided as follows, to wit: Beginning at the north-east corner of Section 30, in fifth township, on the north side of the Greene County line; thence south with the section line to the Miami River; thence to the Northwest corner of Ross Township; thence with said township line to the Greene County Line; thence with said County line to the place of beginning. The said new Township shall be called and known by the name of Vance Township.

Ordered that Samuel Kyle, Esq., do survey and lay off Vance Township agreeable to the above order, and make report thereof to the next court of the Commissioners.

Ordered that the first meeting of the Electors of Vance Township, for the purpose of electing township officers, shall be at the House of Adam Peterson in said Township, on the first Monday of November, next.

THOMAS HUNTER, Clerk.

It can be clearly seen that Miami township had then a much greater extent than it has now, for it then extended southward from Champaign county to its present southern boundary line, and from its present western boundary line it extended eastward to the county line. Therefore there was sufficient territory out of which the new township of Vance could be erected.

In accordance with the order of the commissioners, the county surveyor, Samuel Kyle, set about to define more clearly the bounds of the new township; and in obedience to the order of the commissioners he had ready for the board at its next meeting a report of the survey of the same. To present a clearer idea of the whereabouts of Vance township and at the same time show an old-fashioned surveyor's report, the following is appended:

Pursuant to an order from the honorable Board of Commissioners of Greene County, Ohio, I proceeded, on the 31st of December, 1812, to survey and lay off Vance Township, as follows, Viz.,

Beginning at a stake and white oak, Northeast corner, section No. 30, in Township 5 and range 8; thence South with the line of this section, (crossing a branch at 3 miles and 17 poles, and the North fork of the Little Miami 3 Miles and 143 poles, again at 3 miles and 169 poles) 4 miles and 135 poles to the Little Miami River; the South East 2 miles and 202 poles to three elms and a burr oak at corner of Ross Township; thence east 7 miles to three white oaks in the line of Greene County, corner also to Ross Township Thence North crossing the east fork of the Little Miami at three miles and 255 poles, and a branch at 5 miles and 129 poles, 7 miles to a black oak, white oak and hickory at Corner of Greene County; thence west (crossing a branch at 136 poles, and the north fork of the Little Miami at 6 miles and 196 poles) 7 miles and 242 poles to the beginning.—Jan. 2nd, 1813.

Cornelius Collins

SAMUEL KYLE,

Conrad Collins

Robert Hamia M K R.

Surveyor G. C.

Thus Vance township was a tract of land almost seven and three-fourths miles square and it contained approximately sixty square miles.

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

It would be of interest to know the names of the men who exercised their right of suffrage in that first election of the newly erected township on the first Monday on November, 1812. Unfortunately the poll-book for this election is not to be found, and the earliest list of the residents of the town-

ship is derived from the tax list compiled by Jephtha Johnson, the lister, and dated May 26, 1813. The following were the owners of taxable property in Vance township on that date:

Charles Arthur, Charles Alsop, John Bacock, John Branson, George Buffenbarger, Mathew Bolen, John Briggs, Richard Bloxom, William Brooks, Abraham Bash, Jacob Bowman, Isaac Cooper, Thomas Cooper, Lenard Crane, John Calloway, James Curtis, Robert Davis, Peter Dewitt, William Edgar, Michael Fallum, Alexander Foster, Daniel Griffin, William Gowdy, John Garlough, Sr., John Garlough, Jr., Prudence Gibson, George Hembleman, James Hays, William Harpole, George Humphreys, Richard Ivers, Jephtha Johnston, Jacob Knave, Christopher Lightfoot, Thomas Mills, Lewis Mills, Jacob Miller, George Miller, William Marshall, William Moreland, Robert Mitchell, George Nagley, Sr., John Nagley, Henry Nagley, William Paullin, Ebenezer Paddick, Solomon Peterson, Adam Peterson, Michael Peterson, John Pollock, Conrad Richards, John Reese, Owen Reese, John Ross, Abner Robertson, James Stewart, John T. Stewart, Samuel Stewart, Seth Smith, John Standley, George Stapleton, Moses Scott, Joseph Thornbury, William Thompson, Thomas Thornbury, Isaac Vandevanter, David Vance, Joseph Vance, John Vance, Ephraim Vance, William Vandolah, Richard Vickers, Robert Walburn, Merida Wade, John Willet, George Weaver, Sr., George Weaver, Jr., John Wilson, Anna Wilson, Joseph Wilson, and John Walters. These eighty-three persons who were the owners of taxable property in Vance township clearly formed the bulk of the residents there.

The poll-book of an election for the purpose of electing two justices of the peace for the township on June 5, 1813, adds a few more names to the list, namely: Thomas Thompson, William Pringle, James Stewart, Reuben Young and Spencer Wilson. The judges of this election, the first of which there is any record in the township, were John Garlough, George Nagley, Sr., and Moses Scott. The clerks were James Curtis and William Pringle. John T. Vance and David Vance were elected justices of the peace.

#### THE WEALTH OF VANCE TOWNSHIP.

From the returns of the taxable property by the lister of the township, Jephtha Johnson, it is shown that there were one hundred and twenty horses and two hundred and sixty-three cows within its borders. There were comparatively few owners of real estate in the township as shown by the return of Henry Nagley in 1814. Although the list is certified by him as being a true list of all the land in Vance township, yet the small number of holders of land seems to point toward a mistake or carelessness on the part of the lister. In this report the rate of the land is given (whether it is first, second

or third), the number of acres, the present owner, the original owner and the parts of sections and the townships. All of the land lay in the eighth range. The report follows: George Hembleman, 342 acres of second-rate land, fractional part of section 29, township 6; Ebenezer Paddick and Joseph Hall, 160 acres of second-rate land, northeast quarter of section 24; Peter Buffenbarger, 597 acres of second-rate land, whole of section 5, township 5; Peter Buffenbarger, 82 acres of second-rate land, fractional part of section 4, township 5; Robert Elder, 616 acres of second-rate land, whole of section 10, township 5; John Garlough, Sr., 160 acres of third-rate land, southeast quarter of section 24, township 5; Thomas Mills, 160 acres of third-rate land, northwest quarter of section 23, township 5; William Gowdy, 160 acres of first-rate land, northeast quarter of section 23, township 5. According to the return there were only 2,437 acres owned by resident landowners in Vance township in 1814.

THE END OF VANCE TOWNSHIP.

The organization of Clark county in 1817 sounded the knell of Vance township, for the line between the newly erected county and Greene began at the northeastern corner of Greene county, five and one-half miles south of the line between the eighth and ninth ranges. Since the northern boundary to Vance township began at the northeast corner of the fifth township in the eighth range, part of it was included in the new county and part of it remained in Greene. Since the portion of it still remaining in Greene did not longer warrant it remaining a separate civil division of the county, it gave rise to the following order of the board of county commissioners on November 2, 1818:

It was ordered by the Board of Commissioners that the fractional part of Vance Township occasioned by the organizing of Clark County be and the same is hereby attached to Ross Township.

DANIEL CONNELLY.

## CHAPTER XI.

### BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP.

Beavercreek township was the cradle of Greene county, for it was in the little log house occupied by Peter Borders on the banks of Beaver creek, a short distance from what is now known as the old Harbine homestead at Alpha, that the first meeting of the associate judges of this county took place on May 10, 1803. It was at this first meeting of the judges when the county was laid off into townships that the township of Beavercreek began its official existence. After Sugarcreek, Cæsarscreek and Mad River townships were laid out by the order of the court and their boundaries designated, Beavercreek township was erected by the following order of the court:

And the residue of said County shall Compose a fourth Township, called and known by the name of Beaver Creek Township. Elections in said Township shall be held at the House of Peter Borders on Beaver Creek.

Thus the original boundaries of Beavercreek township were arrived at by the process of elimination and any uncertainty in the delineaments of the townships which had already been erected were reflected in those of Beavercreek township. In order then to determine the original boundaries of Beavercreek township it is necessary to examine the boundaries of the other townships which effected these of the township in question. The northern boundary of Sugarcreek township began at the northwest corner of section 10, township 2, range 6, on the west boundary of the county and extended eastward to a point a short distance southwest of Xenia. The western boundary of Cæsarscreek township began at this point southwest of Xenia and extended northward to the Little Miami, striking the river at the mouth of Massies creek in Xenia township. At this point the northern line of Cæsarscreek township extended eastward to the county line. The southern boundary of Mad River township lay along the section line between the eighth and ninth ranges of townships. Beavercreek township then originally embraced all the territory of which it is now comprised: Bath township, a part of Miami township, a part of Xenia township, a part of Cedarville township and Ross townships and a part of Clark county. Originally its northern line extended east and west two miles north of Osborn, four miles north of Yellow Springs, about four and three-fourths miles north of the bank of the Little Miami at Clifton and five and one-half miles north of the present southeast corner of Clark county. It was bordered on the south by Sugarcreek township, on the east by Cæsarscreek township, on the north

by Mad River township and on the west by Montgomery county. But these boundaries were vague and with the establishment of new townships and the running of surveys in the following years, the present boundaries of the township were finally determined.

#### CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWNSHIP.

The first instance of Beaver creek township being shorn of its territory was at the erection of Xenia township in 1805. All that part of Beaver creek township east of the Little Miami and north of the mouth of Massies creek and from thence southward to the northeast corner of Sugar creek township was added to the new township of Xenia.

On March 3, 1807, the county commissioners divided Beaver creek township into two parts, one of which, the south part, retained the name of Beaver creek and the northern part received the name of Bath township. As at the erection of the county, the election in the new township of Beaver creek was held in the house of Peter Borders. The line of division between the two townships extended east and west with the north boundary of the fifth tier of sections in the seventh range of townships between the Miami rivers. This boundary between Beaver creek and Bath townships is retained to this day.

In June, 1808, the commissioners "Ordered that the following tract or part of Beaver Creek Township, East of the line hereafter mentioned be struck off and attached to Xenia Township: viz., beginning at the East corner of Section No. 5, Township 3, Range 7, thence East to the Little Miami." This territory now comprises the northwest part of Xenia township.

On May 1, 1816, the commissioners ordered "Moses Collier to survey the south part of Beaver Creek Township, east of the Little Miami, beginning opposite to a sugar tree west of the Little Miami River, at the South West corner of Fractional Section No. 29, in the 3rd Township & 6th Range, thence East by Compass to the west line of Xenia Township, to a stake." Thus the boundary between Beaver creek and Xenia townships was determined. Other minor changes have been made in the boundary of Beaver creek township, but the record of the surveys made thereof has not been found. At this time the eastern boundary of the township begins at the northwest corner of section 5, township 2, range 7, and extends southward to the northwest corner of section 4, same township and range; thence eastward to the middle of the north boundary of section 4; thence south to the middle of the southern boundary line of that section; thence east to the northeast corner of section 3, same township and section; thence southward to the Little Miami; thence west to the southwest corner of that section where the line turns southward, following the section line to where it intersects with the northeast corner of Sugar creek township.

## CONGRESSIONAL LANDS.

Beavercreek township, which is now the largest township in the county, having an area of 31,360 acres, is in the main composed of Congressional lands. It contains all of sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, township 2, range 7; all of sections 5, 11 and 12, township 2, range 6; all of sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34 and 35, township 2, range 7; all of sections 35, 36, and 18, township 3, range 6. It also contains fractional parts of sections 2, 3 and 4, township 2, range 7, and of sections 24, 29 and 30, township 3, range 6.

## MILITARY LANDS.

Only the southeastern corner of the township is on the east side of the Little Miami river, hence it is included in the Virginia Military Reservation, the lands of which the state of Virginia reserved for its soldiers who fought in the Revolutionary War. The fact that so little of the territory of the township is included in the Military Reservation should be a source of gratification to the residents of the township, because the system, or lack of system, by which these lands were laid out has been a source of confusion to the holders of these lands almost since they were laid out. There follows the names of the holders of these military surveys, the number of each survey and the number of acres in each:

<i>Name of Holder.</i>	<i>No. of Survey.</i>	<i>No. of Acres.</i>
Wilson Pemberton -----	579	1,000
Maj. Alexander Parker -----	577	1,300
James Knox -----	701	700
William Fowler -----	760	1,000
John Stokes -----	390	1,000
Robert Beal -----	975	1,000
Alexander Armstrong -----	4,087	1

It is known that many of these original holders of surveys of military land were not soldiers of the Revolution. The warrants which were given the veterans called for a certain lot of land, but the location of the tract was not determined, the holder of the warrant being allowed to locate his tract anywhere between the Little Miami and the Scioto. In many cases the old soldiers kept these warrants in their possession without having their land surveyed, and then the warrant came into the possession of their assignees. Again, it was often the case that the veterans sold their warrants to land speculators. It can thus be seen that the ultimate holders of these warrants were not always Revolutionary soldiers. Of these holders of military land given above, the names of William Pemberton, James Knox,

John Stokes and Alexander Armstrong are not mentioned in the list of Virginia soldiers who were given land in the reservation. It is possible that they were either assignees or speculators who bought the warrants from the old soldiers. Alexander Armstrong was a district surveyor who found that the one acre on the Little Miami would not be claimed by a warrant, hence he took a patent out on the little tract. Furthermore these original holders of surveys were absentee owners, because their names do not appear on the enumeration books of the township at any time. Of the four soldiers who owned surveys here, Alexander Parker was a major, William Fowler a captain and Robert Beal a captain. To each of these men a large tract had been given; Major Parker, 6,888 acres; Captain Fowler, 4,000, and Captain Beal, 4,666 acres. These men were not constrained to locate their warrants all in one tract, but they could have surveys made of different tracts in the reservation, the aggregate of which would be the total amount of land to which they were entitled. Not all of these military surveys are wholly within the township.

#### TOPOGRAPHY AND DRAINAGE.

Beavercreek township is one of the most fertile agricultural regions in the county. The surface of the land is gently rolling and many prairie valleys stretch away in fertile fields between the sloping ridges. The soil in the uplands is generally of a rich clay while in the valleys the darker and more alluvial soil is to be found. The chief grains produced in the township are corn and wheat, with a marked predominance of the former. Thus there is much live stock raised within the borders of the township. In the southern part of the township some tobacco is raised, but the production is nothing considerable. The agricultural interests of the township are reserved for discussion in a special section of this chapter. When the township was first settled in the last years of the eighteenth century, it was thickly forested, but that has all changed now. The woodman and his ax has made conclusive inroads upon the stately forests of oak, walnut, beech, ash, hickory, elm and sugar trees which formerly stood thickly over the entire surface of the township except a few prairie-like areas. At this time (1918) there is little use for the saw-mill in this section. Although there is still considerable timber scattered here and there, the farmers are in the main conserving the surviving trees.

#### THE VALLEY OF BEAVER CREEK.

The chief topographical feature of the township is the valley of Beaver creek, which is entirely out of proportion, on account of its striking width, with the small stream which meanders through it. This valley is a large scope of meadow land of extraordinary productiveness and the extent

of the valley leads one to the conclusion that formerly through it flowed a river of large proportions. This, however, is discussed at length in the general chapter of topography and geology. This valley extends north from the village of Alpha for approximately five miles and it is drained by Big Beaver creek. On the ridges which extend along the sides of this fruitful valley, the prosperous farmers have built their large and comfortable homes and have established their complete farm plants, and rarely is there found a more pleasing rural prospect than can be gained from one of these elevations which command a view over this beautiful valley.

#### DRAINAGE.

Beavercreek township is a section cut out of the basin of the Little Miami river, which enters the township on the southeast and flows directly across the southeast corner. The river enters Sugarcreek township in the middle of the boundary line which separates the two townships. The chief tributaries of the Little Miami which drain the township are the Little and Big Beaver creeks. Big Beaver creek, which is a stream of some size, rises in the southern part of Bath township and flows southward through the eastern part of Beavercreek township. It empties into the Little Miami a short distance south of Alpha. Little Beaver creek rises just across the county line in Montgomery county. It flows directly eastward, being joined by Bull Skin run from the northwest and other minor branches from the southwest, and empties into Big Beaver creek just west of Alpha. It is from these streams and from their wide fruitful valley that the township takes its name. Ludlow run, another small stream, rises in the extreme northwest corner of Xenia township, enters Beavercreek township at its northeastern corner, then flows directly south through the eastern side of the township, and empties into the Little Miami northwest of Trebeins, formerly called Beaver Station.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Almost one hundred and nineteen years have passed since the first settlement in Beavercreek township. It was in the spring of 1799 that Owen Davis and his son-in-law, Benjamin Whiteman, the first settlers of the township, struck out northward along what is now known as the Pinkney road, which was then a mere blazed path northward through the forest from Cincinnati, with their families and located near the present site of the village of Alpha, in the vicinity of what now is known as the Harbine farm. The place they had decided to settle was advantageous in those days, for it promised to be a trading point for the surrounding country. Facilities for water-power were excellent from Beaver creek which flowed nearby, and their holdings were located where the Pinkney road turns eastward toward Old-



town and the vicinity of Xenia. During the summer the settlement which they had established was increased by newcomers. John Paul, who became a person of prominence after the organization of the county, located about three miles northwest of the Little Miami river not far from Trebeins Station and William Maxwell, the editor of the first newspaper in the Northwest Territory, moved northward from Cincinnati and settled on the Maxwell farm in the township, and the indications were that many more settlers would come pushing northward on the Pinkney road into this new county. This fact convinced Davis and Whiteman that they had chosen their place of settlement well and they set to work to establish a regular trading post for the surrounding settlers.

The first need of the new community was a mill where the settlers could come to grind their coarse meal, and Owen Davis accordingly set to work establishing a mill not far from the site of the present Harbine mill, a short distance from the village of Alpha. During the winter of 1799 he finished the mill, the motive power of which was furnished by the farmer who had the grist to grind, and it was opened up for the use of the public in the winter of 1799. Settlers from the whole surrounding country came here to grind their meal, many from twenty to thirty miles distant.

A short distance south of the mill, about one hundred yards from the south line of the Harbine farm, and about two hundred yards east of Beaver creek, Benjamin Whiteman erected for his father-in-law a substantial log house which later was used as a place of meeting for the first court held in Greene county. The chief reason why it was designated for this purpose was that it was located on the Pinkney road, the chief thoroughfare of the county at that time. A little to the northeast of this building was the little ten-by-twelve log smoke house, which was used as the jury room after the county was organized. Two blockhouses were built a little east of the mill, so that if the occasion arose they could be connected with a line of pickets so that the mill could be protected in case the settlement was attacked by Indians. Later the dwelling erected by Whiteman was occupied by Peter Borders and it was during his occupancy that the house was used as the place for the meeting of the court.

These four men, the earliest citizens of Beavercreek township, became important personages in the early history of the county and are treated of in a more extended manner elsewhere in this volume.

#### EARLY SETTLERS IN BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP.

Not long after Benjamin Whiteman and Owen Davis had established themselves on Beaver creek, the sound of the ax could be heard above the mill belonging to Davis, where John Thomas, John Webb and John Kizer

were felling trees and hewing the logs into shape for the erection of their cabin homes. Kizer enlisted as a volunteer in the War of 1812 after Hull's surrender at Detroit. He was also aided in the establishment of his home here in Beavercreek township by his three stalwart sons, Peter, John, Jr., and Daniel. John Kizer, Sr., a brother of Benjamin Kizer, who settled in the township in 1804, was known as the champion pugilist of the county until he met Aaron Beall at Oldtown in 1806.

In 1800 Jacob Coy, Sr., came from Maryland and settled on the Shaker-town pike, in the southwest quarter of section 31, township 2, range 7. Coy and his wife, Susanna, were natives of Germany, who came to America when they were quite young. During the voyage the parents of the former died and were buried in midocean. Since their belongings were confiscated by the ship's crew, the seven children were thrown upon the shores of the New World penniless. Jacob, who was eighteen years of age when his brothers and sisters landed, sold his service to a Pennsylvania planter for six years in order to clear himself and his brothers and sisters from debt. Later he married and removed to Maryland where he lived a number of years and accumulated three hundred and fifty acres of land. In 1800 he emigrated with his family to Ohio, coming down the river to Cincinnati where the family remained two months. At that time there were only sixteen log cabins in the village. There he purchased necessary tools and other articles a settler would have need of when entering a new country, and then the family pushed out up the Pinkney road for the northern part of Hamilton county. Here they settled on a tract of three thousand acres of land which Coy had previously purchased in Beavercreek township. He soon began the construction of the cabin, for which he needed nails. Accordingly he sent his son, Jacob, Jr., on horseback to Cincinnati to purchase two kegs of nails for which twelve and one-half cents a pound was paid. The hardest kind of labor on the part of the entire family was necessary to improve the holding, oftentimes the father and sons burning brush until midnight. The prices paid for the products raised by the family were very small. They sold flour in Cincinnati at two dollars and a half a barrel after they had delivered it there by hauling it overland. Wheat sold for twenty-five cents and corn for ten cents a bushel. They paid seventy-five cents a pound for coffee, but three or four pounds lasted the family for a year.

#### OTHER EARLY SETTLERS.

One by one up from Cincinnati, where they gave their last farewell to civilization, the covered wagons and lagging horses came struggling up over the Pinkney road, guided by the sturdy pioneers who were bringing their families here to establish their homes by great toil in the forest of the town-

ship. Others who came in 1800 were Andrew Hawker and his wife Susanna and their family, settling on the farm which adjoined the Adam Hawker farm; and Jacob Judy, who built his cabin on the land which comprised the central part of section 30, township 2, range 6, about one mile south of the site of the village of Alpha. He, too, was a soldier of the War of 1812, and his death occurred in 1823. In this same year, George Shoup, a native of the Keystone state, settled in the southwest quarter of section 36, township 2, range 6, and built his cabin near Mt. Zion cemetery. Possibly a little later John Morningstar lighted the way of his brothers George and Philip into the township. Joseph Palmer, who became a soldier of the War of 1812, came to the township in 1805, and settled on the farm which joins Trebeins on the north. In 1806 David Herring, a native of Frederick county, Maryland, came to the township and purchased the farm belonging to Benjamin Whiteman, who removed to the vicinity of Clifton. Herring erected his cabin in the southwest quarter of section 20, township 3, range 7. In the same year George Frost built a cabin in the northeast quarter of section 16, township 3, range 7. In 1807 Silas Kent settled in the southeast quarter of section 22, township 3, range 7, which land is now known as the David Garlough farm. He built his cabin a short distance east of the present Garlough farm house. In this same year, George Morningstar followed his brother John into the township and settled on land in the southwest quarter of section 9, township 3, range 7, which farm is now known as the John B. Stine farm. He built his cabin on the site of the present Stine farm house. At the same time came his brother, Philip Morningstar, who built his cabin in the northeast quarter of section 9, township 3, range 7.

Some of the later comers were Matthias Gray who came in 1813 and settled in the southeast quarter of section 8, township 3, range 7, on what is now known as the Samuel Andrews farm. Two years later came John Kenney and settled in the southwest quarter of section 10, township 3, range 7.

#### ADAM SWADNER, THE HANDY MAN OF THE SETTLEMENT.

It was in 1807 that Adam Swadner, a native of Maryland, entered one hundred and fifty acres of land in section 16, township 3, range 7. He became the holder of this land with the stipulation that he should improve it, and he built a log house which was occupied for many years. During his early life he learned the trade of shoemaker, to which he later added some proficiency in the more simple mechanical lines. This made him a very valuable man in the settlement.

## RESIDENTS OF BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP IN 1803.

The poll book of the first election which was ordered by the associate judges to be held at the house of Peter Borders on Beaver creek in 1803, is extant, but the names of the judges of the election and the officers elected are not given. Neither is the exact date given, save that the election took place in October, 1803. The richest fund of names of the residents of Beavercreek township in that year comes from the report of the enumeration taken by James Popenoe, the lister. The names included in this document, to which are added names of settlers from the poll book, names which are not included in the enumeration report, are appended. It must be borne in mind that Beavercreek township then comprised the larger part of what is now Greene county and some of the names mentioned belong to the early settlers of townships later erected; nevertheless they voted and paid their taxes as residents of this township. The names follow: George Alexander, George Allen, Nathan Allen, William Allen, John Aken, William Aken, Gabriel Bilderbach, Peter Borders, William Bull, Sr., James Bull, Richard Bull, John Boshier, Gardner Bobo, James Benefield, Jesse Bracken, James Buchanan, John Buchanan, Robert Bogges, Elias Bromegen, Jacob Coy, Adam Coy, Levi Connelly, Abel Crawford, James Carroll, John Cottrell, William Chenoweth, Benjamin Devere, John Driscoll, William Downey, Owen Davis, Lewis Davis, Robert Frakes, Jonathan Flood, Edward Flood, John Fogey, John Freeman, William Freeman, Samuel Freeman, Elijah Ferguson, William Ferguson, Zachariah Ferguson, Benjamin Ginn, James Galloway, Sr., James Galloway, Jr., George Galloway, Thomas Godfrey, John Harner, Jacob Harner, George Harner, Michael Hendricks, Andrew Hawker, Abraham Hanley, Alexander Haughey, David Huston, William King, Adam Koogler, Jacob Koogler, Richard Kiser, Peter Kiser, John Kiser, John Kenney, Joseph Kyle, Mathew Kavender, Isaac Kruzan, George Kirkendale, Jacob Kent, Samuel D. Kirkpatrick, George Kirkpatrick, William Kirkpatrick, William Law, Justice Luce, Arthur Layton, Arnett Longstreth, Cornelius Morgan, John Morgan, Sr., John Morgan, Jr., Isaac Morgan, Evan Morgan, Christie Miller, John Miller, James Miller, Isaac Miller, Frederick Morelander, William Maxwell, William Minnier, Abraham Minnier, Edward Mercer, Jonathan Mercer, Henry Martin, William McCloud, Charles McGuire, William McClure, John McKaig, Daniel McMillan, Alexander McCollough, William McFarland, Alexander McCoy, Sr., Alexander McCoy, Jr., James McCoy, Daniel McCoy, John Nelson, William O'Neal, William Orr, John Paul, James Popenoe, Peter Popenoe, Sr., Philip Petro, Nicholas Petro, Paul Petro, William Price, William Pasel, Nicholas Quinn, Sr., Nicholas Quinn, Jr., Matthew Quinn, James Riddle, John Rittenhouse, Garrett Rittenhouse, William Robbins, Isaac Rubart,

Alexander Rough, John Rue, Abraham Rue, Andrew Read, William Stockwell, Andrew Stewart, Jacob Shingledecker, James Stevenson, William Stevenson, John Stevenson, Peter Sewell, John Shigley, Frederick Shigley, Thomas Simpson, Michael Spencer, William Smith, Jacob Smith, John Smith, Joseph Smith, James Scott, Christopher Truby, Jacob Truby, John Tingley, Silas Taylor, William Taylor, George Taylor, Thomas Townsley, John Townsley, Joseph Tatman, James Tatman, Remembrance Williams, Charles Williams, Christian Willand, Benjamin Whiteman, Andrew Westfall, James Westfall, George Wolf, John Webb, Henry Whittinger, Henry Ward and Henry Young.

#### RAILROADS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

There is no other township in the county, excepting Xenia township, that has better railroad facilities than Beaver creek township, which has at present (1918) two steam roads and one traction line. One difficulty with these lines is that they extend parallel a short distance from each other from the eastern to the western side of the township. The first railroad extended through the township was the Dayton, Xenia & Belpre road, which was completed in 1853 and was consolidated with the Little Miami railroad in the same year. In 1869 this line was leased for ninety-nine years by the Pennsylvania, under which it is now operated. Another line parallel to the one before mentioned, called at the time of its construction the Dayton, Xenia & Southwestern, was being constructed through the township at the same time, but before it was completed it was bought out by the Pennsylvania. It lay dormant until 1876-77, when the right-of-way was taken over by the Baltimore & Ohio, and the road was completed in 1878.

The township formerly had two parallel traction lines, the Dayton & Xenia and the Rapid Transit, both of which were completed in 1898-99. Since that time the latter has ceased to operate. A more complete history of these railroads can be found in the chapter on transportation.

#### MURDERS IN THE TOWNSHIP.

The autumn of 1872 was a season for murders in Beaver creek township, for during the months of September and October of that year two murders occurred.

Late on the night of September 7, 1872, as Jack Davidson and Jesse Curry, two young men, were returning from a dance near Zimmermanville, the former shot and killed the latter with a revolver, the murder occurring on the road northwest of Alpha. At the trial Davidson was convicted and sentenced to a life term in the Ohio penitentiary. Later, however, he was pardoned by Gov. R. M. Bishop.

About eight o'clock on the evening of October 22, 1872, John William

Fogwell, or more properly Faulkwell, was murdered by William Richison on the road about one mile north of Trebeins. The former was returning home from Dayton when he was fired upon by the latter who had secreted himself in a fence corner with a shotgun loaded with balls. The flash of the gun revealed the face of the assassin and he was recognized by Faulkwell, who lived long enough to tell the name of his murderer. On this evidence Richison was arrested, charged with the crime. During the trial additional evidence was found which fastened the guilt upon him without a doubt. The paper used for the wadding of the shot gun was found to correspond with pieces of torn paper found at the murderer's own house. He was found guilty on his first trial, but for some reason he was granted a second trial. He was again found guilty and was sentenced to death by hanging. Before the appointed day for the execution he committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell in the county jail at Xenia. He was buried in his own dooryard in a lone unmarked grave, near the scene of the tragedy.

#### THE PINKNEY POND.

Before the widespread use of drain tile on the farms of the township there was a large body of standing water on the Steele farm, just southwest of Trebeins Station, known as Pinkney pond. The pioneer road over which the early settlers came into the township and Greene county took its name from this body of water and was known as the Pinkney road. In the early days before the forests were cleared away and this district was the haunt of deer and other wild animals, it was the custom of the early settlers to go to this pond at night on hunting expeditions, for the deer and other game came here for water at that time.

The story is told how John and Samuel Morningstar, two pioneer boys of that section, launched their canoe on the pond one night and paddled around its brink cautiously in search of game. For such a hunting they had a large torch and their rifles. As they proceeded slowly along the banks, they suddenly came upon a large buck, which became so stricken with astonishment and curiosity at the sudden appearance of the light that it did not seek safety in flight. Moreover, the boys were almost as thoroughly nonplussed as the buck, and they had an immediate attack of the bane of all hunters, "buck ague." Soon, however, the boys recovered their senses to such an extent that they sought to use their rifles. At the report of the rifle, the buck bounded into the water, capsized the frail boat and precipitated the young nimrods into the water, for they had evidently been somewhat nervous when they fired upon their prey. The ducking in the cold water brought the boys around to full consciousness, and a long struggle

took place on the brink of the pond, which ended with dispatching the buck.

#### AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

In the main, Beavercreek township is in the beautiful valley of Beaver creek, which is one of the best agricultural regions in the county if not in the state. Generally its entire extent is fertile, well timbered, rolling and picturesque, and it is noted for its fine farms. Hundreds of cattle, and sheep graze on the fine pastures on the ridges above the magnificent valley, and over three thousand hogs, according to the agricultural report of the county for last year (1917), are fed out for the market annually. Moreover, much milk, butter, wool, and poultry and many eggs are sent to market from this district each year. The automobile and the tractor have not entirely eliminated the horse from being the necessary animal that he is in carrying on the agricultural operations of the township. The rich bottoms of the Little Miami and the fertile valley of Beaver creek and the fertile upland farms afford ample space for raising grain, hay, potatoes and other vegetables. In potato culture Beavercreek township leads all the other townships in the county, and there is also considerable tobacco raised in the southern part of the township.

In general the farmers of the township are skilled agriculturists, for they seem to use the proper methods in caring for their soil by a carefully worked-out system of crop rotation, in the use of fertilizer, and in the growing of humus crops. In 1917 almost three hundred tons of commercial fertilizer and several tons of lime were used and hundreds of acres of clover sod were turned under.

Great changes have been made in agriculture in the last half century; some crops are no longer grown and many others are doubled in their yield. It is a source of interest to compare the agricultural statistics of sixty-seven years ago with those of the present. From the returns of the census of 1850 data has been obtained concerning the production in the township during the year 1849. Access also has been had to the agricultural statistics of Greene county for 1917. Generally these two sources are fairly reliable; however, the items of the former seem more nearly correct than those of the latter. Through an oversight or carelessness on the part of the assessor, or the failure of the assessed to make a full return, the report of 1917 seems incomplete in many instances. The fact that from the 422 sheep of the township in that year only 216 pounds of wool were clipped, makes the report seem somewhat incomplete. Nevertheless, from these reports some very interesting comparisons can be drawn. For this purpose the following table has been arranged:

## LIVE STOCK.

	1849	1917
Horses, number -----	807	1,065
Cattle, number -----	1,796	2,050
Sheep, number -----	3,606	422
Hogs, number -----	4,402	3,155
Butter, pounds -----	74,062	8,396
Cheese, pounds -----	320	----
Wool, pounds -----	10,335	216

A striking feature of the 1917 report is the number of hogs which died in the township from cholera during the year. In this township 712 hogs died from this disease. In the report for 1850 cattle were divided into three groups: Cows, evidently for dairy and breeding purposes, 852; work oxen, 22; other cattle, presumably beef cattle, 922. The value of animals slaughtered in that year (1849) was \$14,865.

## GRAIN, SEED, VEGETABLES, ETC.

The table which follows compares the grain, seed, vegetable and miscellaneous production in the township in the years 1849 and 1917:

	1849	1917
Wheat, bushels -----	48,102	77,192
Rye, bushels -----	1,050	4,311
Corn, bushels -----	134,485	(shelled) 269,163
Oats, bushels -----	18,870	29,146
Buckwheat, bushels -----	143	62
Flax seed, bushels -----	2,903	----
Clover seed, bushels -----	191	114
Timothy, seed, bushels -----	26	----
Irish potatoes, bushels -----	8,295	17,140
Sweet potatoes, bushels -----	905	----
Tobacco, pounds -----	----	2,710
Honey, pounds -----	1,113	26
Hives, number -----	----	6
Hay—		
Timothy, tons -----	----	1,486
Clover, tons -----	----	914
Total, tons -----	1,651	2,400
Alfalfa, tons -----	----	2,119

A glance at the first part of the above table reveals that grain farming in the township has almost doubled its production since 1849, and the culture



of the lowly tuber as shown by the respective production of these two years compared is surely gaining in extent. It can be seen that flax is no longer grown in the township, for the day of linsey-woolsey has passed. This is a striking contrast to what it was a half century ago, for then Alpha was an important center in the county in the production of linseed oil, and almost every farmer in the township had his acreage of flax. It is obvious that the township no longer takes the interest in bee culture that it did formerly when there were more than a thousand pounds of honey produced; yet the fact that six hives of bees yielded only twenty-six pounds of honey in 1917 shows that the return was not at all complete or the residents of the township took very little interest in honey production.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTION.

The fact that there are items in the one report which do not occur in the other makes it necessary to deal with them miscellaneously. In 1850 there were 16,043 acres of improved land in the township, while there were 14,396 acres which were unimproved. In all then here were 30,439 acres of land in the township which were owned at that time. In 1917 there were in the township 22,655 acres under cultivation, 2,240 acres in pasture; 2,488 acres in timber; 216 acres in orchard and 1,240 acres of waste land. There were then 28,829 acres owned in the township. The estimated value of all the farming implements in the township in 1850 was \$29,893, but this total will not at all compare with that invested in the same at present. This is the age of machinery and the progressive farmers of Beaver creek township avail themselves of the use of all improvements to make farm work more pleasant, more profitable and more efficient.

#### ALFALFA AND SILOS.

Many marks of progress which are now to be seen in the township were unknown in 1850. The use of alfalfa was then as nearly within the ken of a farmer as orchid culture, hence it does not appear in the report for that year. In 1917 the farmers of the township had thirteen silos, but it is quite possible that the farmers of 1850 would have considered such corn-canning sheer foolishness. During the season of 1916 these silos were filled with 685 tons of ensilage cut from 137 acres.

#### LAND IMPROVEMENT.

The farmers of 1917 believe in using proper methods in improving the fertility of their soil by the use of commercial fertilizers and the like. During 1917 the farmers of the township sowed with their wheat and planted with their corn 546,260 pounds of commercial fertilizer and eleven tons of lime to neutralize the surplus of acid in some tracts. The growing of legu-

minous crops, such as clover and alfalfa, has come in for its share of importance. In 1916 Beaver creek township had the largest acreage of alfalfa in the county, 712; and in the same year 312 acres of clover sod were turned under as a humus crop. The digging of ditches has caused the passage of such bodies of water as Pinkney pond and the reclamation of large tracts of land. This work is kept up, for in 1916, seven hundred and ten rods of drain tile ditches were laid.

#### MILK, BUTTER AND EGGS.

The day for the farmer making his own cheese has passed and it seems that the day of the old-fashioned, home-made brand of butter is going the same way. The extended use of the cream separator in the township has tended to bring this about, for it is more profitable to the farmer to market his cream, selling during the last year 48,190 gallons. During this same time there were sold from the township 215,050 gallons of milk. The hen must come in for her share in enhancing the prosperity of the township, for in 1916 she laid 187,210 dozens of eggs. The uplands of the township are admirably suited for fruit growing and during the last year the apple trees yielded 10,160 bushels. There are also many peaches grown in this same orchard section when the season is suitable for this fruit. It may be mentioned here that the onion and tomato patches of the township yielded 129 bushels of the former and 210 bushels of the latter.

#### LAND HOLDING AND TENANTS.

Lastly, it is of interest to note that during 1917, according to the report for that year, there were eighteen renters of farms in Beaver creek township who worked for wages and the number of farms rented to tenants was twenty-one. One of the gravest problems that confront agricultural production today is the removal of farmers and agricultural operatives to urban centers. It should be a source of gratification to the residents of the township that during the year 1917 there was not a single farmer within its borders who removed to the city or town.

#### THE VILLAGE OF ALPHA.

Alpha, which is the largest village within the bounds of Beaver creek township, is located in section 19, township 2, range 6, in the southeast part of the township, about a mile and a half northwest from the Little Miami river. It has excellent transportation and communication facilities for a town of its size, there being two railroads and a traction line passing through or near it. At present its population is approximately one hundred. The village takes its name from the fact that it is located near where the first

settlement in the township was made. The name arises from alpha, the first letter in the Greek alphabet.

#### THE GENESIS OF ALPHA.

It undoubtedly was the intention of Owen Davis and Benjamin Whiteman to establish a trading post here when they became the first settlers of the township, on the old Pinkney road, but the establishment of the county seat at Xenia and the shifting of the center of government from the neighborhood of Alpha to the county seat, evidently caused these two pioneers to sell their possessions here and go to the vicinity of Clifton. It seems then that Alpha received its beginning when Owen Davis built his mill and Benjamin Whiteman the house, which later was used as the place of meeting of the first court in the county on Beaver creek. Alpha did not become a reality until fifty years after the erection of the county.

The old log house which was the first "court house" of the county and the surrounding acreage were purchased by John Harbine in 1827 and since he had learned milling in his native state he began utilizing the waterpower of Beaver creek to the southwest of the site of Alpha. For many years there was only a semblance of a settlement in the neighborhood of where the village stands today, but the coming of the railroad in 1853 began making the residents of the section buzz with enterprise. This railroad was first called the Dayton, Xenia & Belpre railroad, but it is now the fine trunk line of the Pennsylvania called the "Panhandle." When the railroad was projected, Harbine gave the road the right-of-way through his farm, and the station established there was called Harbine. It was not until that year that the first house was erected upon the actual site of the village. The story goes that Enoch Needles and Bain Dice each began to erect his house at this time and there arose a contest between the two as to who would be the first to finish his dwelling. Needles' house was to be located across the railroad from the present dry-goods store and Dice at the same time began his house just opposite. Although Needles succeeded in raising the frame of his house first, it fell during the same night, such was the hurry in the construction. This then gave Dice the right of declaring that his house was the first to be erected upon the site of the town of Alpha. Needles finally completed his house after he had learned that "haste makes waste," and in that structure soon opened up the first dry-goods store in the village.

#### LAYING OUT THE VILLAGE.

In the following year, 1854, it was decided by the owners of the land whereon the village now stands, to plat a townsite along what was then known as the Xenia, Dayton & Belpre railroad. The spot seemed to promise

well for the establishment of a shipping point here, hence the owners of the land, John Harbine and William J. Needles, engaged the services of the county surveyor, Samuel T. Owens, to lay off the town. The work was carried on in the spring of 1854 and the plat was certified as follows:

I hereby certify that at the request of William J. Needles and John Harbine, the owners and proprietors, I surveyed and laid off the Village of Alpha as shown on the annexed Map or Plat thereof. The sizes of the lots, width of the streets and alleys and several courses they bear, all marked on said Map accurately. Survey made on the 28th day of February and the 1st day of March, 1854.

SAMUEL T. OWENS,  
Surveyor of Greene County.

In a note that follows, Owens makes an explanatory statement of the plat, stating the location of the site, the size of the lots and from the land of which proprietor the lots were taken:

Of the above lots numbered from 1 to 5 are laid off by W. J. Needles and contain 1.95 acres, and the ballance from 6 to 20 are laid off by John Harbine and contain 5.95 acres, all in section 19, township 3, range 7, and which quantities should be deducted from the lands of Needles and Harbine.

SAMUEL T. OWENS.

The plat was certified at Xenia on March 1, 1854, by Samuel T. Owens, in the capacity of a notary public. The plat was received for record in the recorder's office at the court house in Xenia on March 10, 1854, and it was recorded by M. W. Trader, the recorder, on the following day. Thus the village of Alpha received legal recognition.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAT OF THE VILLAGE.

As was said before, Alpha owes its location to the railroad, which extends through it east and west. A short distance to the northeast the Dayton pike curves to the west, and Main street of the village is extended out to the pike, thus giving the town access to this thoroughfare. Main street extends in a northeast and southwest direction and is cut at about the mid point by the Panhandle railroad. On the east side of this street are lots of the original plat numbering from the northeast from one to ten, inclusive. This street is sixty feet in width. Extending along the railroad are the remainder of the lots numbering from eleven to twenty, inclusive. These lots front Beaver street, a street which is sixty feet wide and leads off from Main street in a westerly direction.

#### THE HUBBELL ADDITION.

No additions were made to the village until 1914, when Frank C. Hubbell made an addition of seven and forty-two hundredths acres in an irregularly shaped tract to the north and west side of the village, on the north side of the railroad. This addition was laid out by S. Milton McKay, surveyor and engineer of Greene county, on February 2 and 3, 1914, and the land

from which it was taken was formerly a part of the John Harbine farm. The addition was certified as follows:

State of Ohio,  
Greene County

Be it remembered that on the 6th day of March, 1914, A. D., personally appeared before me, H. S. LeSourd, a Notary Public in and for said County, Frank C. Hubbell and Hetty F. Hubbell, and acknowledged the within plat.

H. S. LESOURD, Notary Public.

The plat was presented for record on March 6, 1914, and it was recorded by B. F. Thomas, the county recorder, on March 9, 1914.

This tract lies in the northwest quarter of section 19, township 3, range 7, and it contains twenty-two lots. It is reached by Maple street, which leads off of Main. Maple street is crossed at right angles by another, Linden street, which extends north and south.

#### RAILROADS.

There are few towns of Alpha's size which enjoy better relative railroad facilities. Passing directly through it is the Panhandle and to the south of it the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton, which only recently became a part of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. To the south of it runs the Dayton & Xenia traction line. Thus it is put in communication with both Xenia and Dayton, both of which places can be reached by residents of Alpha each hour of the day.

#### THE POSTOFFICE.

Some years before Alpha was regularly laid out, the people who were residents of the vicinity secured the establishment of a postoffice there. The first delivery of mail at that station took place on Thursday, May 2, 1850, four years before the village was laid out by Needles and Harbine. Joseph Siddall was the first postmaster. Fred Barnard is the present postmaster and also has the only store in the village. Leonard Barth, who has been there since 1874, runs a meat market. His son, Fred Barth, now has active charge of the business. Frank C. Hubbell has an elevator and mill and operates under the name of the Alpha Seed & Grain Company.

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS IN ALPHA.

In its early years Alpha was a lively manufacturing center. Many a gallon of whisky was distilled at its distillery, which was owned by John Harbine. It was only by turning their corn into whisky that the farmers could find a market for this grain. There were also flour, woolen, grist, saw and oil mills, and in addition to these enterprises, a large tobacco, grain and shipping business was carried on.

## THE VILLAGE OF ZIMMERMANVILLE.

Zimmermanville is a closely settled neighborhood at the crossing of the Xenia and Dayton and the Fairfield and Bellbrook pikes, located about two miles northwest of Alpha, in the northwest quarter of section 32, township 2, range 7. The first house built here was erected on the southeast corner of the cross roads by Jacob Zimmerman, for whom the village is named. It was in this house that Zimmerman kept the first store and it also served as a tavern in the earlier days. This old house is still standing. The next house was built by Samuel Tobias just across the Dayton pike, and this building was used as one of the first voting places in the neighborhood. In 1881 the village was comprised of one school house, a German Baptist church, a grocery store and about forty houses. The population in 1910 was about one hundred. Burley Coy is the only merchant of the place in 1918.

## SHOUPS STATION.

In the southwest quarter of the same section and about a quarter of a mile south of Zimmermanville is a railroad station, called Shoups Station, located on the Panhandle. Here there is one store and about fifteen people.

## TREBEINS STATION.

Trebeins Station is a small village two miles east of Alpha on the east bank of the Little Miami river in Beaver creek township. It lies in the Military Survey, on the Dayton and Xenia pike. The village had its beginning in 1800 when John Paul erected near there, on the banks of the Little Miami river, the first mill in the neighborhood, or the first mill in the county, which used water for its motive power. This was a saw- and grist-mill and it was known in the neighborhood as Paul's Mill. It is possible that this mill was located on the western side of the river. Evidently when Paul left the township, his mill fell into decay. Not long afterward Adam Emory built a mill on the site of the village and the milling enterprise has continued to be a part of the village since that time.

This village has been known by different names since its establishment in the early part of the nineteenth century. Possibly not exactly on the site of the present village there was at the time of the erection of the county a village by the name of Pinkneyville. When the county was organized and the matter of the location of the county seat was an important question before the residents, Pinkneyville was one of the sites under consideration. At a later date, possibly after the Panhandle railroad, or the Dayton, Xenia & Belpre, as it was then known, was projected through the site of the present village, the little town became known for some unknown reason as Frost Station. During the eighties the village was called Beaver Station. It took

the name which it bears at present from F. C. Trebein, who operated a flour-mill and distillery there for many years.

The transportation facilities of this little village are excellent. Two railroads, the Baltimore & Ohio and the Panhandle, pass through or near the village and the Dayton & Xenia traction line, which touches the village, places it within almost instant communication with either of these two cities. In addition to these means of transportation, the Dayton and Xenia pike, an excellent thoroughfare, extends through the village.

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS OF TREBEINS.

The village in 1918 has one general store owned by Clarence O. Miller. In fact, Miller is the principal business factor of the place. He not only owns the only store, but he also owns the elevator and flour-mill. The mill was erected during the winter of 1914-15, the construction beginning immediately after the former mill of Dewey Brothers burned on Thanksgiving Day, 1914. Miller bought the old site and at once began the erection of the present mill and elevator. The mill is operated by electric power and the elevator is also electrified, if such an expression may be used. All grain is dumped, carried from elevator to bins, from bins to the hopper, or from bins to a car on the tracks—all by the turning of a button. A car of wheat can be loaded in two hours by the method which Miller has installed. He does a large amount of custom milling and has already built up an extensive trade.

#### THE VILLAGE OF NEW GERMANY.

The village of New Germany is a small cluster of houses in the extreme northwestern corner of Beavercreek township, situated in the northwest quarter of section 5, township 2, range 7, on the Harshmanville road. The records do not reveal when the site of this village was first settled. Apparently the first residents of the little village were of Teutonic origin, because the name applied to the settlement is New Germany. The village is not situated on a railroad.

## CHAPTER XII.

### CAESARSCREEK TOWNSHIP.

Caesarscreek township was one of the original four townships erected at the meeting of the associate judges at the house of Owen Davis on Beaver-creek, May 10, 1803. It was the second township erected at that meeting and its boundaries were delineated by the judges as follows:

The Township of Ceasars Creek shall Begin at the North West Corner of Sugar Creek Township, running thence North to the Little Miami; Thence East to the East line of said County; thence bounded on the East and South by lines of said county, and on the West by Sugar Creek Township. Elections in said Township shall be held at the House of William J. Stewart in Caesarsville.

#### THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWNSHIP.

The original south and east boundaries of Caesarscreek township were definitely located, since they were coincident with the county line, but the difficulty arises in the location of the north and west bounds. The location of these two lines depends entirely upon the situation of the northwest corner of Sugarcreek township. This point was established by the intersection of the north and east lines of the latter township. The east line extended northward from a point in the county line four miles east of the Little Miami river and the north line extended eastward from the northwest corner of section 10. It can thus be seen that this east line of Sugarcreek township if produced would strike the Little Miami river at the mouth of Massies creek and this was also the understanding of the county commissioners when they erected Xenia township in 1805. It follows then that the west line of Caesarscreek township extended due southward from the mouth of Massies creek to the southern boundary of the county, intersecting the latter line about a quarter of a mile east of Painters creek, and the north line of the township extended due east to the county line, passing about a mile south of Cedarville and about a quarter of a mile north of Grape Grove in Ross township.

In those days the township was bounded on the north by Beaver-creek township, on the west by Beaver-creek and Sugarcreek townships; on the east by what is now Fayette and Madison counties, and on the south by what is at this time Clinton county. It is thus obvious that the township has been the parent of three townships in entirety and of four in part. The three which have been taken wholly from territory which sometime before had



been a part of Caesarscreek township are Jefferson, Silvercreek and New Jasper townships, and those which have been erected in part from Caesarscreek township land are Spring Valley, Xenia, Cedarville and Ross townships. Apparently the township was quite extensive when it was established in 1803. Roughly speaking, it was a parallelogram, twelve miles wide and sixteen miles long and contained one hundred and ninety-two square miles. Moreover, when the point at the fork of Shawnee run was selected as the site for the new county-seat town of Xenia, it was found that this land was included in Caesarscreek township.

#### CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWNSHIP.

It was not long that Caesarscreek township maintained its large expanse of territory and its symmetry, because in a very short time the commissioners of the county began erecting new townships. The erection of the first township which affected the extent of Caesarscreek township was that of Xenia township in 1805. This township took from Caesarscreek township a large triangular tract of land, the western boundary of which began at the mouth of Massies creek and extended thence with the western line of Caesarscreek township due south to the mouth of Anderson fork. From this point the line of the new township followed the meanderings of Caesars creek "to the East line of the County." This statement of the commissioners is somewhat vague, but it is shown when Silvercreek township was erected that the line between Xenia and Caesarscreek township left the course of Caesars creek at a point about seven miles west of the eastern county line and then maintained a course due east to the county line. This line later became the northern boundary of Silvercreek township. Thus Caesarscreek township was shorn of almost one-half of its extent.

The boundaries of the township were left undisturbed until 1811, when Silvercreek township was established by the county commissioners, who on March 4 of that year, ordered that such a part of the township be stricken off as was bounded by a line which began on the southern boundary of the county one mile east of the old Ross county line, which extended north and south eight miles west of the present eastern boundary of the county, and then ran north eight miles. From that point the line of the new township extended due east to the eastern boundary of the county. By this Caesarscreek township lost fifty-six square miles more of its territory.

In 1853 the township lost more territory on its northern boundary by the erection of New Jasper township. By this action of the commissioners the present northern boundary of the township was established. Again, in 1856, the erection of Spring Valley township cut off a considerable tract on

the west and thus established the present western boundary of Caesarscreek township.

MILITARY LANDS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Caesarscreek township lies wholly within the lands of the Virginia Military Reservation, there being in all seventeen different surveys which lie either wholly or partly within the township. Even though these landowners held tracts within the township, not one of them ever became a resident thereof, all being absentee landholders. Moreover, not all of them were veterans of the Revolutionary War. There follows a table of all the surveys, carrying the name of the owner, the number of the survey and the number of acres in each survey:

<i>Name of Owner.</i>	<i>Number of Survey.</i>	<i>Number of Acres.</i>
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2,235	1,000
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2,234	1,000
Samuel Eddins -----	1,044	1,000
Robert Pollard -----	3,908	4,222
Willis Wilson -----	2,435	666 $\frac{2}{3}$
Henry Baylis -----	9,672	110
William Nelson -----	2,312	1,640
Nancy Grimes -----	2,473	1,000
Nancy Grimes -----	2,312	640
Carter Page -----	1,731	1,000
Nancy Grimes -----	2,354	1,050
Carter Page -----	1,729	1,000
William Croghan -----	3,913	950
Alexander Balmain -----	1,274	1,200
Francis Dade -----	4,377	220
Nancy Grimes -----	2,474 and 2,526	1,740
Richard C. Anderson -----	2,383	2,533 $\frac{1}{3}$

Of these holders of military land, Samuel Eddins was a captain; Henry Baylis, a lieutenant; William Nelson, a colonel; Carter Page, a captain; William Croghan, a major; Alexander Balmain, a colonel; Francis Dade, a captain, and Richard C. Anderson, a colonel. Warner and Addison Lewis were probably land speculators, for they owned thousands of acres of land in the county, and it was the practice in the early days for these speculators to buy up land warrants from many of the veterans of the Revolutionary War. Willis Wilson and Robert Pollard were probably heirs or assignees and it is certain that Nancy Grimes was the heir of Capt. William Grimes.

Not all of the surveys included in this table lie wholly within the town-

ship. Those lying partly within the township are Numbers 2235, 2234, 1044, 3908, 1729, 3913, 1274 and 2383.

#### TOPOGRAPHY AND DRAINAGE.

Caesarscreek township as it stands at present is located in the south-central part of the county and is bounded on the north by New Jasper and Xenia townships, on the east by Jefferson township, on the south by Clinton county and on the west by Spring Valley township. The surface of the township is somewhat rolling and is fairly well forested with hardwood trees that are native of this section of the country. On the ridges are found many productive upland farms, comprised of soil of rich clay, and here are raised considerable quantities of corn, wheat and oats. Much of the rolling land affords excellent pasture for hundreds of horses, cattle and sheep and during the year, many swine are "fed out" for the market.

The central part of the township forms the divide between Painters creek and Caesars creek. The former rises in the extreme southern part of Silvercreek township, flows across the northwest corner of Jefferson township, enters Caesarscreek township at its northeast corner and then its course describes a circular course down through the southern part of the township, which the stream leaves near the southwestern corner. This stream has several tributaries, one of which is Mursers run. This stream rises in the surveys numbered 2474 and 2526, flows southwest and empties into Painters creek in the southwest corner of the township. Caesars creek forms a part of the northwestern boundary of the township. It is from this stream that the township derives its name. The creek in turn takes its name from the Negro servant of the officers who commanded the expedition of Gen. George Rogers Clark against old Chillicothe on the Little Miami in 1794. The expedition had progressed all the way from Kentucky without the knowledge of the Indians until they reached the territory now comprising Greene county, but this negro, whose name was Caesar, stole away from the command and brought the intelligence of their impending danger to the Shawnees at old Chillicothe. It is possible that Caesar left the command while it was in the whereabouts of the creek that bears his name.

#### THE FIRST SETTLER.

Possibly about 1800 David Painter, who had before that year become a member of a settlement of Friends at Waynesville, in what later became Warren county, decided to move northward into what was erected into Greene county in 1803. At the time when he reached his decision to change his place of residence, there was only an old Indian trail which led from Waynesville to Oldtown, but he loaded his few agricultural implements and household

goods into wagons, and accompanied by his family, moved slowly northward along this old trail. When he reached the creek, which later was given its name in honor of this early settler in the township, Painter decided to establish here his home. His family at that time consisted of three sons, Jesse, Jacob and Thomas, and one daughter, all of whom contributed their whole-hearted efforts to the building of the home in the forest and to the bringing of the soil under cultivation. The land which David Painter settled now comprises the Harvey C. Faulkner farm.

At the time of the Painter family's settlement here, there were only three cabins between Painter's cabin home and Waynesville, but soon afterward other settlers of the same creed of this sturdy Quaker flocked into the township, and a Friends society was organized. Painter himself was instrumental in the organization of this society. The death of this old settler occurred about 1840 and since that year all of his children have followed him to the grave. The Painters were ideal settlers, for they were a thrifty, steady and yet enterprising family. Moreover, their adherence to the creed of the Friends was instrumental in their becoming valuable and moral citizens of the new county and neighborhood. Even though the teaching of the Friends is against war, this first settler of the township waxed warlike when it seemed that a wholesale butchery of whites impended after Hull's surrender at Detroit. On that Sabbath morning when the news of the disaster arrived in the settlement, David Painter, under the exigency of the moment, shouldered his rifle and march off to join the volunteers who were hastening to Urbana to protect the Ohio settlements from the Indians who were reported to be coming southward.

#### OTHER EARLY COMERS INTO THE TOWNSHIP.

Shortly after the Painter settlement was established, Caleb Lucas, a native of Virginia who had settled temporarily in Warren county, moved northward into what is now Caesarscreek township and located on the Phillip Powers farm. Caleb Lucas was born in the Old Dominion on October 2, 1776, and his death occurred on April 25, 1851. He was a soldier of the War of 1812. A comparatively short time after he settled here in the township, he sold his land to Samuel Martin, the so-called Indian doctor. The farm was later sold to Edward Powers, from whom it reverted to his son, Phillip Powers. Soon after Caleb Lucas settled in the township, his brother, John Lucas, settled on the Jamestown pike, on the farm which later came into the possession of his grandson, James Lucas. Since they were high-spirited Virginians, the two Lucas brothers were in frequent altercations with their neighbors and such difficulties were generally settled in fisticuff encounters in which the combatants went at it "hammer and tongs," as it

was described then. John Lucas was the younger of the two brothers, he having been born on July 29, 1793. His death occurred in 1871 after he had lived almost four score years.

Another settler who came to the township before 1803 was Frederick Price, a Virginian of German descent, who settled on what later came to be known as the D. M. St. John farm. Price remained there until 1830, in which year he sold his holding to Stephen Bones and then removed to Indiana, where his death occurred in 1870.

#### SOME LATER COMERS.

In 1806 Elisha Bales, a native of Pennsylvania, brought his family, including his four sons, Jonathan, John, Jacob and Elisha, Jr., into Greene county and settled in Caesarscreek township. A part of the family located in the northern part of this township and some members settled in that part of Caesarscreek township which was later included in New Jasper township. The elder Bales spent the rest of his life in the township, improving his farm, and his death occurred in 1828.

In the same year came Robert Faulkner, a brother-in-law of David Painter and a native of Virginia. He located with his family on a tract of land adjoining Painter's place and for many years the Faulkner posterity continued to reside in the community.

In 1807, David Murphy, also a native of the Old Dominion, brought his family to this township and located in the military survey which joined the possession of Caleb Lucas on the west. His wife had fallen heir to this part of the military survey, her father having evidently been a veteran of the Revolutionary War. The Murphys possibly became dissatisfied with their location here and in 1850 the family moved to Indianapolis, Indiana.

#### THE EARLIEST ELECTION RECORD OF THE TOWNSHIP.

When the associate judges laid out the county into townships on May 10, 1803, they ordered that the election for the township of Caesarscreek be held in the house of William J. Stewart in Caesarsville. It is almost a certainty that the election was held sometime later in the year and at the place indicated, but the whereabouts of the poll-book of that first election in the township is not known. On October 9, in the following year, another election was held, and the poll-book of this election is the earliest one found pertaining to Caesarscreek township. From this poll-book one can determine the names of some of the earliest settlers of the township as it was then, but the limited number of electors included indicates that the settlers either were careless in exercising their right of suffrage or were too busy garnering their crops to take a part.

## THE POLL-BOOK.

Tuesday, October 9th, A. D. 1804.

State of Ohio, Greene County, Township of Ceasars Creek.

Poll Book of an Election held at the House of Wm. I. Stewart for the purpose of Electing one member of Congress, one member of the Assembly, also one Commissioner and one Senator.

*The Electors' Names*—Samuel Anderson, Frederick Bonner, James Bonner, Valentine Bone, Jacob Bone, William A. Betty, John Billington, John Campbell, John Casey, Josiah Elam, Edward Flood, Josiah Groyer, John Hoop, George Isham, Samuel Lee, Caleb Lucas, Abraham Lucas, Joseph Lucas, Joseph Lambert, Charles Moore, Isaiah McDonald, Dempsey McDonald, Samuel Miller, William McFarland, John McClelland, Samuel G. Martin, John Martin, John Mendenhall, John Paul, David Price, William Price, Frederick Price, John Stafford, Gardner Sutton, Gennire Sutton, Samuel Sutton, John Sterritt, Joseph Sterritt, Moses Trader and Remembrance Williams.

Judges: Frederick Bonner and Isaiah McDonald.

Clerks: Charles Moore and Chappell H. Bonner.

The result of this election in the township was that Jeremiah Morrow received thirty-nine votes for Congress; John Bigger, forty votes for the state Senate; John Sterritt received twenty-seven votes for state senator and Joseph Tatman, twelve; James Snodgrass, forty votes for county commissioner.

## THE FIRST ENUMERATION.

The first enumeration sheet of the township antedates the above poll-book by a year and from it one can obtain the names of many more of early pioneers of the township as it stood in 1803. This enumeration of the free males in the township above the age of twenty-one years was begun by the lister, Joseph Price, on August 3, 1803, and was finished on the tenth of the same month. The additional names which thus can be added to the above list are the following: Isaac Bonner, Samuel Bone, James Corey, William Conkleton, Joel Coleman, Stephen Hoggett, Josiah Hunt, James Lawrey, John Montgomery, Leavitt McDonald, Stephen Mendenhall, William Mullen, Martin Mendenhall, Edward Mercer, Joseph Price, David Price, Jr., Peter Price, David Painter, Nathan Porter, James Porter, Henry Prill, Sr., Henry Prill, Jr., Isaiah Sutton, Jonah Sutton, Amariah Sutton, Lewis Sutton, William I. Stewart, Noah Strong, Reuben Strong, William Stanfield, Leonard Stump, Joseph Wilson, Sr., Joseph Wilson, Jr., Remembrance Williams.

As this list of names is scanned, the impression must not be gained that these early settlers were all residents of Caesarscreek township as it is today. Reference to the discussion of the changes of the boundaries of the township reveals that many of these settlers no doubt lived in the eastern part of what is now Xenia township or in the present townships of Silvercreek, Jefferson or Spring Valley.

## IMPROVEMENT IN THE TOWNSHIP IN THE EARLY DAYS.

Under the steady strokes of the ax, the magnificent forests in Caesars-creek township gradually gave way before these sturdy pioneers, and soon there were scattered over the whole extent of the township log cabins and log barns which housed the settlers, their families and live stock. As time passed tanneries sprang up here and there to provide leather for the old-fashioned "fare-leathers" saddle and for the shoes used by the pioneer household. Since whisky was held to be absolutely necessary for the early resident of the county in those day to neutralize the heat of summer, the cold of winter, the ravages of ague, stomach trouble, for weddings, for influencing bids at public sales, for influencing voters and for dispensing good cheer on all occasions, several distilleries were erected in the township and did a flourishing business for many years. Then, with the passing years, the prosperity of the settlers became more evident with the abandonment of the old log cabin which sheltered them and their families in the early years of their residence here, and they erected in their places dwellings of brick or of timber which had known the buzz of the saw-mill. A glance at the assessor's returns for the years 1830, 1833, 1840 and 1841, reveals some of the improvements which were made in the township in those years.

In 1830 David Painter, the first settler in the township, razed his old log house and erected in its stead a brick structure which was valued for taxation at one hundred dollars. In the same year Joel Ellis built a brick addition, valued at one hundred and fifty dollars, to his house. Three years later, it was found that Isaiah Oglesbee was finishing his new dwelling in survey No. 1831, but the value of two hundred dollars which the assessor placed upon it brought a warm protest from the owner, because he thought the estimate too high. In that same year, John Fudge, who was a prominent figure in the politics and government of the county in his day, was the owner of a tannery in survey No. 1383, valued at three hundred dollars. The assessor's returns for 1833 showed that Jesse Faulkner was busily engaged in adding two hundred and fifty dollars' worth of improvements to his holding in survey No. 1274. James Curl, the owner and operator of a tanyard, the land for which he had leased from Jacob Painter, succeeded in having the value of his enterprise reduced one hundred dollars.

In 1840-41 Joel Peterson was meeting the wants of his neighbors for liquid refreshment with his distillery on survey No. 3708. This enterprise was of considerable importance as compared with other like enterprises of the township, because it was valued at one thousand dollars. The clearing away of the old, friendly log cabins, which gave place to the frame buildings, created the need for a saw-mill and one such was owned by Elijah B.

Hartsook on a part of a tract of one hundred and ten acres in survey No. 2435. The motive power for the plant was derived from an adjacent stream, the volume of which did not always admit of running the mill more than six months of the year. William Whinnery, a tanner of the township, furnished the residents of the township with leather. In that part of the township which was later included in New Jasper township William Long and William Hardie had erected, respectively, a brick and frame dwelling, the former of which was valued at four hundred dollars and the latter at three hundred. Evidently distilleries at that more recent date furnished an acceptable market for the corn grown in the township, for Bernard F. Rowe operated a steam distillery and chopping-mill in connection on a one-acre lot which was a part of survey No. 1378.

#### THE VILLAGE OF PAINTERSVILLE.

The only village in Cæsarscreek township as it is today is Paintersville, which is located in the eastern central part of the township, about a mile from the township line, in military survey No. 2254. The town was laid out along the Jamestown pike, which forms the main street of the village. About two hundred yards north of the northernmost lot of the village flows Painters creek.

Before the village was laid out, the site was a part of the farm of one hundred and fifty acres which belonged to Jesse Painter, a son of David Painter, the first settler of Cæsarscreek township. Before the town was laid out Jesse Painter and Jonathan Oglesbee owned country stores on its site, where the residents of the surrounding country came to purchase their supplies. A short time before 1840 Painter decided that the modest trading point could take upon itself the dignity of a village of considerable importance and since he was the owner of the surrounding land he secured the services of Moses Collier, the county surveyor, who platted the village in the latter part of the summer of 1837. The work was finished on September 7, 1837, and on the 16th of the same month the plat was received for record and recorded by J. H. McPherson, the county recorder, as follows:

#### PLAT OF THE VILLAGE OF PAINTERSVILLE.

The Town of Paintersville, in Greene County, O., of which the above is a correct Plat, was laid out and surveyed by the undersigned for Jesse Painter, the Proprietor, on part of a survey, originally made for Nancy Grimes, No. 2354. Main Street and Ash Street are 60 feet wide, Walnut Street is 50 feet wide, alley No. 2 is 16 feet wide and all other alleys are 12 feet wide. The bearing of Main Street is N. 5 E. and the lines of all the streets, lots and alleys (except the South line) are parallel and right angles thereto.

Lots No. 1, 2, 24, 25, 30 & 31 are 60 feet front on Main Street and 80 feet back, containing 4,800 square feet. Lots No. 12, 13, 20, 27, 28 & 29 are 60 feet front on Main Street & 140 feet back, containing 8,400 square feet. Lots No. 14 is 70 feet in front, containing



5,300 square feet; No. 15 contains 5,100 square feet; No. 16 contains 5,490 square feet; No. 17 contains 6,070 square feet; No. 18 contains 6,540 square feet and all the other lots are 60 feet front & 120 feet back, containing each 7,200 square feet. A stone was planted by my direction at each intersection of the lines of Main and Ash Streets.

Given under my hand this 7th day of September, 1837.

MOSES COLLIER,  
Surveyor of Greene County, Ohio.

#### FURTHER DESCRIPTION OF THE VILLAGE.

As was said before, Paintersville's main street is a part of the Jamestown pike, which extends a short distance south of the village where it intersects with the county road and the New Hope pike. Beginning at the north the first cross street is Ash, which extends westward until it intersects the county road. The next cross street south is Walnut, which is a continuation of the Port William pike joining the county road a short distance from where Ash street does the same.

In all there are thirty-three lots indicated on the original plat. West of Main street and north of Ash street are lots No. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27. Between Ash and Walnut streets and west of Main are lots No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. South of Walnut are lots No. 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18. East of Main are lots No. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33. The date of the sale of these lots is not on record; however, it is known that the proprietor sold them at twenty and twenty-five dollars each, according to location.

#### GROWTH AND BUSINESS INTERESTS OF THE VILLAGE.

When the village was platted in 1837, it had two stores, as was stated before, one belonging to Jesse Painter, the proprietor of the village, and the other Jonathan Oglesbee. Soon after the laying out of the town Joseph Oglesbee erected a frame building on the lot later owned by John Mason. Cornelius King built the next building, a brick structure, which later became the property of Lewis Thomas. There followed a number of log houses which in time gave place to frame and brick structures. At present the village contains about twenty-five houses. The population of the town in 1881 was about one hundred and fifty, in 1896, one hundred, and at present (1918) about one hundred and fifty. Since the town is not located on a railroad, its progress has been retarded. In the early eighties a narrow-gauge railroad from Cincinnati to Columbus was projected through the village, but the plan was never realized.

A comparison of the business interests of the village at different dates shows that the movement of population to the urban centers, the rapid means of communication facilitated by the automobile and telephone, and the proximity of larger adjacent towns has caused a lagging in the estab-

ishment of business enterprises in the town. In fact the town has deteriorated in this respect. In 1881 Paintersville had a saw-mill, owned by James and Thomas Babb; a carriage factory, by Allen and Eli Powers; a blacksmith shop, by William King; a grocery store, by John B. Mason; a harness shop, by Lewis Thomas and a physician, Dr. William Rowse. In 1896 the town had two grocery stores, one harness shop, two blacksmith shops and one saw-mill.

#### WINCHESTER.

Few people now living in Greene county have ever heard of the town of Winchester in this county, but a reference to the records in the office of the county recorder reveals the plat of a well-laid-out town by the name of Winchester. In fact there is no town in the county with a more artistic and finely planned set of streets than this town, a town which never got beyond the beautiful plat which its fond promoters had made of it.

Here is the official record on this town:

State of Ohio }  
Greene County } ss.

THOMAS BABB, proprietor.

Caesar Creek Township, Greeting:

I, Reuben Strong, one of the acting Justices of the Peace of this Township and county aforesaid, do hereby certify that personally came Thomas Babb, a resident of Clinton County, and freely acknowledged the site and title and the within Plat be a true form laid down for the use and purpose of a town within Caesars Creek Township to be established as a Town by the name of Winchester.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 26th day of February, 1816. REUBEN STRONG, J. P. (Seal)

This town was located on the west side of the present Wilmington-Xenia highway, just after the road crosses Caesars creek. There is nothing in the record of the plat to indicate its location any nearer than "Caesarscreek township." As far as is known there was no serious attempt to establish a town on the site, and it is difficult to see at the present time why any one should have thought a town would have made any growth there. The plat on record shows it to have been the best-laid-out town in the county. There were seventy-two in-lots and sixteen out-lots, the whole site being surrounded by a street which might be called a boulevard.

#### AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS OF CAESARSCREEK TOWNSHIP.

The prosperity of Caesarscreek township depends entirely upon its agricultural operations. As was said before, the township lacks the alluvial valleys of broad bottom lands of some of the other townships of the county, but the fertile clay soil of its uplands yields bountiful crops of corn, wheat, oats and rye. The general condition of the surface admits of the grazing of large numbers of cattle and sheep. It is one of the best hog-raising dis-

tricts of the county, there having been "fed out" over six thousand hogs in the township in 1917. The dairy products of this section also are quite important sources of wealth.

It is interesting to compare the agricultural statistics of sixty-seven years ago with those of the present (1918). Returns of the census of 1850 compared with the detailed agricultural report of the county for 1917, compiled from the returns of the township assessors show the following:

## LIVE STOCK.

For its size the township grows a comparatively large amount of live stock, of which hogs predominate. In the following table are included butter and wool:

	1849	1917
Horses, number -----	804	756
Cattle, number -----	1,108	1,136
Sheep, number -----	4,027	422
Hogs, number -----	4,036	6,183
Butter, pounds -----	69,923	214,120
Wool, pounds -----	11,026	216

In the report of 1850 the mules in the township numbered six, and cattle were divided as follows: Cows, probably for dairy and breeding purposes, 118; work oxen, 2, and other cattle, apparently beef cattle and the like, 988. A striking feature of the report for 1917 is the number of hogs in the township which succumbed to the scourge of cholera. In all 712 porkers died from this disease and 27 farms were infected. Within each hog was the possibility of an animal weighing two hundred pounds and let the average price for hogs for the year be fifteen dollars a hundred weight, then the death of each hog entailed a loss of thirty dollars. Since there were 712 hogs that died of the disease, then the total loss in the township because of this disease was \$21,360. There has been a tremendous increase in the production of home-made butter in 1917 over the year 1849.

## GRAIN, SEED AND VEGETABLES.

The table which follows compares the grain, seed, vegetable and miscellaneous production in the township in the years 1849 and 1917:

	1849	1917
Wheat, bushels -----	21,513	39,136
Rye, bushels -----	830	413
Corn, bushels -----	124,205	147,987
Oats, bushels -----	937	8,147

	1849	1917
Buckwheat, bushels -----	83	-----
Barley, bushels -----	50	-----
Flax seed, bushels -----	12	-----
Clover seed, bushels -----	20	136
Irish potatoes, bushels -----	2,874	-----
Sweet potatoes, bushels -----	273	-----
Tobacco, pounds -----	-----	2,710
Honey, pounds -----	1,075	80
Hives, number -----	-----	35
Maple syrup, gallons -----	436	911
Maple sugar, pounds -----	14,690	-----
Hay—		
Timothy, tons -----	-----	1,010
Clover, tons -----	-----	879
Total -----	-----	1,889
Alfalfa, tons -----	-----	222

The interval between 1849 and 1917 has witnessed striking improvement in the grain production of the township; however, in one instance, that of rye, the production has fallen off about one-half. The most striking increase has been in the production of oats. It should be said again in comparing these statistics that the township is in no wise as large now as it was in 1850, due to the organization of New Jasper township, the territory of which was largely taken from Caesarscreek township. It can then be seen that the increase in the production of corn and wheat is much more considerable than it seems at first sight. The growing of buckwheat, barley and flax seed is no longer carried on to any appreciable extent in the township. The growing of clover seed shows an appreciable increase. From the report of 1917 one would judge that the "grow potatoes" movement was overlooked by the assessor. Honey production has had a remarkable decrease in this interval, but the fact that thirty-five hives succeeded in producing only eighty pounds creates the impression that the return is not full for 1917. Of course alfalfa was an unknown crop in the township in 1849.

#### USE OF LAND IN THE TOWNSHIP.

In 1850 the improved acreage in the township was 12,693 and that which was unimproved was 9,904. In 1917 there were 9,846 acres of cultivated land in the township; 820 used for pasture; 1960 acres of timber; 176 acres of orchard land and 428 acres of waste land, all of which made a total of 13,236 acres owned in the township. In the same year the number of renters

working for wages on farms was 3; the number of farms rented to tenants, 9, and the number moving from farm to town, 2. In 1850 the estimated value of the farming implements in the township was \$19,243.

#### SOME MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIONS IN THE TOWNSHIP.

Because some items that appear in the report of 1917 do not occur in the one of the year 1850, they will be discussed miscellaneously. In the autumn of 1916 the apple trees of the township yielded spoil amounting to eight hundred twenty bushels. The proximity of canning factories affords the farmers of the township today ample market for the nineteen tons of sugar corn they grow. There is another kind of corn-canner which is in extended use in the township and that is the silo, which the farmer of sixty-seven years ago no doubt would have considered sheer nonsense. At present there are twenty-six of these corn-canners in use in the township and in the fall of 1916 they were filled with five hundred ninety-one tons of ensilage. In connection with the use of ensilage for cattle feed, it is well to discuss the dairy products of the township during the last year. Many farmers of the township own cream-separators, another machine unknown in 1850, which enabled the owners to sell during 1917 16,720 gallons of cream. At the same time they also found ample market for the 14,102 gallons of milk which they sold during the year. In the recital of these sources of prosperity in the township, one must not forget the hens, which laid 101,126 dozens of eggs.

#### LAND IMPROVEMENT IN THE TOWNSHIP.

While the farmers of the township are producing their crops, they do not lose sight of the fact that the fertility of their soil can become impoverished. Nothing is better for recruiting the energies of a soil than the turning under of clover sod and the farmers of the township thus disposed of two hundred seventeen acres of clover sod during the last year. At the same time they made ample use of the other important asset of every farmer, barn-yard manure. During the year they utilized 429,740 pounds of commercial fertilizer. Although the greater part of the township is upland soil, there are tracts which need reclaiming by drainage, and the owners of Caesarscreek township soil laid nine hundred seventy-two rods of drain tile during 1917.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP.

The first official act of the associate judges after the first court of common pleas was organized at the house of Peter Borders on Beaver creek, on May 10, 1803, was the laying off of the original townships of the county, and the first one of these to have its delineaments recorded on the minute-book of the court was Sugarcreek township, as follows:

The Township of Sugar Creek shall Begin at the North West Corner of Section No. 10, on the west line of said County; thence South with said line to the Southwest Corner of said County; thence East, crossing the Little Miami, and the same course continued four miles East of said river; thence North so far that a line west will strike the Beginning—and that Elections in said Township shall be held in the House of Wm. Clemmy (James Clancy).

Obviously the bounds of the township as set forth by this order of the court were very vague. Apparently Sugarcreek township then embraced all of what is now Sugarcreek township, all of Spring Valley township and a part of Xenia township. The northeast corner of the township was located just south of the city of Xenia, the southeast corner approximately where the southeast corner of Spring Valley now occurs and the northwest and southwest corners have remained where they were established by the associate judges. The court clearly did not have the extent of the township in mind, for when Xenia township was organized in 1805 no mention was made of the fact that a part of it came from Sugarcreek township. It was not until 1856 that Sugarcreek township was confined to the bounds which it has today by the organization of Spring Valley township.

#### CONGRESSIONAL LANDS.

Sugarcreek township proper is located in the extreme southwest corner of the county, bounded on the west by Montgomery county, on the south by Warren county, on the east by Spring Valley township and on the north by Beaver creek township. It contains all of sections 34, 35 and 36, township 4, range 5; all of sections 4, 5, 6, 10, 11 and 12, with fractional parts of sections 3 and 9, township 3, range 5, and all of sections 31, 33 and 34 with fractional parts of sections 32, 27 and 28, township 3, and range 6. These sections form almost a perfect parallelogram running north seven and east three sections, inclusive.

## MILITARY LANDS.

On the northeast part of the township is added a part of what is known as the Virginia Military Survey, the territory which lies between the Scioto and Little Miami rivers. As no survey of these lands was made by the state, each claimant could locate his claim wherever he pleased and the result was much confusion in the location of their respective land plats. Many of them overlapped, a condition which subsequently led to much litigation. Again, this system, or lack of system, created the system of land platting between these two rivers which has continued to be a source of great worry to the surveyors of later years. The majority of the owners of these land grants in Ohio never saw their holdings and many of the old Revolutionary soldiers, who were in need of ready money in the early years of the nineteenth century, sold their warrants to speculators who would advertise in Virginia that on a certain date they would be in a designated vicinity for the purpose of buying land warrants. Thus it arose that many of the ultimate holders of these surveys were not soldiers of the Revolution at all and very few of them were either heirs or assignees of the old heroes. The majority of the lands in Sugarcreek township are in the congressional surveys and the original holders of the military surveys in this township follow:

Name.	Survey.	Acres.
John Crittenden -----	No. 904	1,000
Robert Beals -----	No. 975	1,000
Alexander and James Parker -----	No. 3,610	780
Elias Adsit -----	No. 14,067	14
Pamelia and Penelope Russell -----	No. 2,566	500
George Holland -----	No. 3,585	240
William Fowler -----	No. 760	1,000
Pamelia and Penelope Russell -----	No. 2,565	1,730

Clearly every one of these original holders of the military lands in Sugarcreek township were absentee owners, for the first poll-book and the first enumeration sheet of the township do not include one of these names. The majority of these persons were veterans of the Revolution, for John Crittenden was a lieutenant; Robert Beals was a captain; Alexander Parker was a major; James Parker was a lieutenant; George Holland was a lieutenant, and Pamelia and Penelope Russell were the heirs of Maj. John Russell. These men did not confine their holdings to one tract, for Lieutenant Crittenden was entitled to 2,864 acres, but he owned only 1,000 acres in Sugarcreek township.

## TOPOGRAPHY AND DRAINAGE.

Sugarcreek township is well drained, for in addition to its river and near-rivers, several lesser streams ramble around through the small valleys which they have cut in the surface. Little Sugar creek, a small stream, rises in the extreme northwest corner of the township and flows toward the center where it forms a confluence with Big Sugar creek, which rises in Montgomery county. This juncture takes place just south of Bellbrook, and from thence on the stream is known simply as Sugar creek. It is probably from this stream or possibly from the abundance of sugar-tree timber which formerly was so plentiful in this section that the township derived its name. It is certain that Sugarcreek township in the earlier days was a district where much maple sugar and "tree molasses" was manufactured by the old-fashioned methods. From the point where Big and Little Sugar creeks join, the main stream flows in a southeasterly direction until it joins the Little Miami about a mile southeast of Bellbrook. The Little Miami river enters the township at the northeast and flows southward little more than half the distance of the township, at which point it abruptly turns eastward and enters Spring Valley township.

In general the whole extent of the township is considerably broken, especially along the river, but in the eastern and southern sections, the land is high and rolling, with fertile, beautiful valleys intervening here and there. The soil of the highland is rich clay with a limestone base, especially in the north, while in the south the base is of sandstone. In the latter section fruit growing is carried on with much success. Of course in the valleys and bottom lands is found the rich, black alluvial soil. The industries of the township are wholly agricultural and the chief products are wheat, corn, oats, rye and tobacco. Considerable attention is given to the culture of the plant last named and superior grades which command good prices are raised in the township. When the first settlers of Greene county came into this township, they found the land heavily timbered and the great labor entailed in making "deadenings" and clearings made the bringing of the soil under cultivation a comparatively slow process. The most important forest trees that were found here then were the sugar, the walnut, the ash and the poplar. The steady plying of the woodsman's ax and the entrance of the steam saw-mill was the signal for the melting away of the heavily timbered districts. To the earlier residents of the township the Little Miami afforded waterpower for the flour- and saw-mills. In the north part of the township, which is underlaid with limestone, considerable building stone was formerly quarried and at present these stone deposits afford a large quantity of excellent material for the building and the up-keep of the excellent roads of the township.



## THE EARLIEST SETTLERS IN SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP.

One hundred and twenty-five years ago the territory which is now known by the name of Sugarcreek township was an unbroken wilderness. Herds of deer roamed through the forest and occasionally a bear was to be seen. It was not long after this time that the land could continue in its primeval state, for in 1796 the first settlement in the township and indeed the first settlement in Greene county was made. Gradually the tenacles of civilization had been extending up the Little Miami in what was then Hamilton county until the southern boundary of Greene county was reached. There is considerable disagreement about this first settlement in the township. It is safe to say that it occurred in the spring of 1796, that the first cabin was erected in that year and that the first settler was named Wilson. Just which member of the Wilson family was the first settler and which one built the first cabin remains a matter of doubt. One version of this settlement is given in the chapter on the first settlers of the county and another will be submitted at this point.

Down in the neighborhood of Cincinnati lived John Wilson, one of the pioneers of that section. He was a native of New Jersey, from which state he had removed to Pennsylvania. From the Keystone state he had floated down the Ohio by flatboat to Kentucky. It was only a step across the Ohio into the new country and he with his family, which included four sons, crossed some time prior to 1796 and temporarily settled in the neighborhood of Cincinnati. Two members of this family had heard of the opportunities for settlement in the wilderness northward in the valley of the Little Miami in the territory which was later erected into Greene county. Accordingly in the spring of 1796 these two brothers, George and Amos Wilson, were joined by Jacob Mills and they all set out northward along the course of the river. The two brothers located on section 4, township 3, range 5, while Mills, as he discovered after Greene county was organized in 1803, settled just across the line in Warren county. The place on which the Wilson brothers raised their temporary cabin was about three-fourths of a mile east of the little village of Clio or Ferry. This rude hut, which sheltered the brothers while they were clearing enough land for planting a little patch of corn and a few beans and pumpkins, was about twelve feet square, without floor or chimney and was constructed of unhewed logs. This cabin was raised on April 7, 1796. After the brothers had cleared about three acres of land and had put in their "crops," they returned to Cincinnati to care for their crops there. It is quite possible that they had come northward to locate a tract before buying it, hence their return to Cincinnati also enabled them to negotiate for the purchase of the land whereon they had settled.

During the absence of the two brothers, another member of the Wilson family, Daniel, came up into this country and located just west of Ferry in the southwest part of section 10, township 3, range 5, where he cleared two acres and prepared the logs for his permanent cabin. He remained here until he was joined by his brothers, George and Amos, who returned from Cincinnati in the fall of 1796. They were accompanied by another brother, John Wilson, who was also desirous of locating in the new settlement. Immediately the four brothers set to work raising their homely cabins in the clearings they had hewed out of the dense forest, the first one being that belonging to Daniel, which was located about sixty rods west of what later became the site of the village of Ferry. Another was erected for George somewhat east of the present site of the village and still another for Amos to the north. After their cabins had been fitted with some of the rude furnishings of the pioneer cabin which could be fashioned here in the wilderness, the four brothers returned to Cincinnati for their families. In the latter part of the winter of 1796-97, George and Amos Wilson and their respective families took up their residence in their new homes in Greene county, but Daniel did not arrive in the new settlement until March 3, 1797.

#### COMING OF THE ELDER WILSON.

Soon after the Wilson brothers had settled, their reports of this new country to their father, John Wilson, Sr., were so flattering that he decided to pay them a visit, thinking that if the land came up to his expectations he, himself, would remove from his farm near Cincinnati and settle with his sons here. The elder Wilson was in no wise disappointed with this new country, for he decided to come northward and settle with his sons if they would build him a cabin. The younger Wilsons gladly accepted the proposition and immediately set to work erecting their father's cabin in 1800 and 1801, its site being about three-fourths of a mile east of the site of the village of Ferry. It was a two-story structure, built of hewed logs, quite a palatial residence for Greene county in those days. The floor was of puncheons and an extensive fireplace, which occupied the whole west end of the lower story, seemed a measure of the sons' gratification at their father's coming to their new settlement. For many years this old house stood a relic of the first settlement of Greene county in Sugarcreek township.

From his home in Sugarcreek township John Wilson, Sr., wielded a potent influence in the community in which he lived and upon the affairs of the state of Ohio after it was admitted to the Union. When the constitutional convention of 1802 met, John Wilson was a delegate from Hamilton county, of which the territory comprising Sugarcreek township was then a part. He did not spend the rest of his life in Sugarcreek township, for

he removed to Miami county, Ohio, and his death occurred at West Creek of that county. Neither did all his sons remain residents of the township. George Wilson, who, when the call to arms went forth during the War of 1812, enlisted in the service of the country, removed from the township at an early date. John Wilson, Jr., married Nancy Dinwiddie on October 30, 1806. Daniel Wilson, who was born in Pennsylvania, April 21, 1756, removed from Sugarcreek township in 1811 and his last days were spent in Montgomery county. Amos Wilson removed to Cæsarscreek township in 1805, from which he later went to Clinton county.

#### OTHER EARLY SETTLERS.

In the spring of 1797 when Daniel Wilson was returning here to settle permanently, he overtook Joseph C. and David Vance in the valley south of where Lebanon now stands. The Vance brothers were on their way up to the valley of the Little Miami to find homes in this new country. Joseph C. Vance entered land along the east side of what is now Main street in Bellbrook, which tract was a part of sections 31 and 32, township 3, range 5. He built a cabin of rough logs about the corner of Main and Walnut streets, somewhat to the rear of where Ephriam Bungardner's paint shop used to stand. When Greene county was organized in 1803, Joseph C. Vance removed from Sugarcreek township after selling his cabin to James Clancy who used the building as a part of the flourishing tavern which he kept at that time. Vance then went to the new town of Xenia, of which he had been appointed director by the associate judges. In 1805 he resigned his official position of director and went to the newly organized county of Champaign, where he became director of the new town of Urbana. In that county he occupied the same official position as did John Paul in Greene county until his death in 1809. Joseph C. Vance was a native of Pennsylvania and shortly after the Revolution he embarked his family on a flatboat and floated down the Ohio until he landed on the Kentucky side, at which point he was instrumental in the founding of the town of Vanceburg. The cabin which he erected after he became a resident of Greene county was the first one erected on the site of what later became Bellbrook. It was in this house where the township organization was effected and it was here that Rev. Robert Armstrong preached his sermons to the nucleus of the Associate congregation of Sugarcreek township. At the organization of the township Joseph C. Vance was elected the first township clerk.

It was here in Sugarcreek township that Joseph Vance, later governor of Ohio, spent his young manhood. He was remembered by the old pioneers in later years as a young man driving an ox-cart along the Pinckney road. He was a typical pioneer boy, clad in linsey shirt and buckskin breeches which were suspended by knit "gallusses."

## CAPT. NATHAN LAMME.

The early settlers of Sugarcreek township were not without their military heroes, the most important one of whom was Capt. Nathan Lamme. He was an officer of the Virginian soldiery of the Revolutionary War, and he was entitled to four thousand acres of land of the military reservation. He came to Greene county in 1797 and located land in sections 33 and 27, township 3, range 6, northeast of Bellbrook. He erected his homely pioneer cabin north of the Washington mill. During the Revolution he was present at the battle of Point Pleasant, having volunteered for the Dunmore expedition in 1774, and after the outbreak of hostilities between the colonies and England, he espoused the patriot cause and wore a continental uniform for eight years. When Greene county was organized, he was elected sheriff, which office he held for only three months, as he was compelled to resign to look after his large land interests. He spent the rest of his life in Sugarcreek township, his death occurring in 1834.

One of Captain Lamme's sons was David Lamme, who was only six years of age when he came with his father to Greene county. He became a soldier in the War of 1812, serving first as a volunteer under Capt. Robert McClelland. Later he joined General Harrison, whom he followed throughout the war. Because of his gallantry at the battle of Lundy's Lane, he was promoted to the rank of captain.

## A PIONEER SAW-MILL.

Another pioneer of the township was John C. Hale, Sr., who came to this county and settled in Sugarcreek township in 1802. In that year he built a log cabin on the site now occupied by the Mary L. Tate house. Near this cabin his son, Silas Hale, Sr., when only a small boy narrowly escaped being killed by a bear. This cabin was like any other of those days with the exception that its floors were not made of puncheons, but of planks. Of course at that early day there were no saw-mills within a hundred miles of Bellbrook, and the planks were sawed out by hand. The logs were first hewed square and then lined on two opposite sides. The log was then raised at one end so as to permit a man to stand erect on the under side, and another to take his station on top. Both operators could then use the saw with ease. It is quite likely that the man working on the under side of the log got more than his share of saw dust in his eyes and down his neck. Hale supplemented his farming operations by doing the tanning business of the community and his sons in early life became proficient in the art of grinding oak bark for tanning purposes. In 1838 he removed to Indiana where his death occurred on September 25, 1845.

## THREE SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Among the early settlers of Sugarcreek township were three soldiers of the Revolutionary War, namely: James Snodgrass, Richard Cunningham and John Torrence.

James Snodgrass entered a quarter section of land in the township shortly before Greene county was organized. When the tyranny of George III had exasperated the colonists beyond the point of endurance Snodgrass left his home in Pennsylvania, his native state, to fight for the right and served throughout the war. After pensions were granted the soldiers of the Revolution by the act of 1832, a remittance was due this doughty old soldier, but he refused to avail himself of the money and waxed very angry at those of his comrades-in-arms who did so. "No," he said, "it is not right that a man should be paid for fighting in defense of liberty; and I intend to go down to my grave with the government owing me that debt." And he carried his intention out to the uttermost.

Richard Cunningham was a more recent comer to Sugarcreek township, his name appearing for the first time on the enumeration sheet of the township in 1820, at which time he was the owner of lots 9, 10 and 28 in the town of Bellbrook. He was a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and sometime during the spring of 1777 he enlisted for three years in the regiment commanded by Colonel Dunlap, which was a part of the Pennsylvania military establishment during the Revolution. He was under fire at the stubborn battle of Brandywine and withstood the rigors of that terrible winter at Valley Forge. After his three years of service had expired, he re-enlisted as a rifleman and scout. His pension began with the date of March 4, 1831, at the rate of eighty dollars a year.

John Torrence was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and at the outbreak of the Revolution he enlisted in the regiment of Colonel Dunlap of the Pennsylvania militia. After the war he emigrated to Kentucky from which state he moved to Sugarcreek township, Greene county, Ohio, in 1804. He was pensioned under the act of 1832, the pension being granted on May 3, 1833, when the old hero was seventy-four years of age.

## CYRUS SACKETT.

It was on October 17, 1799, at three o'clock in the afternoon, that Cyrus Sackett accompanied by his wife and three children settled on the place which later and for one hundred years was known as the Sackett farm in Sugarcreek township. Cyrus Sackett had emigrated to these parts from Kentucky and here he bought this farm of one hundred and fifty acres

for two dollars an acre. When the family arrived here, they found their holding covered with a dense growth of timber, and they here pitched their improvised tents made of bed clothing, in which they managed to live for some time until the father could build his cabin. The first dwelling was made of unhewed logs, but after the family had lived in it for several years, the father erected a large hewed-log house. After the death of Cyrus Sackett and his wife, parts of the farm remained in the Sackett name until 1899, a period of one hundred years since the grandfather had settled here.

#### JAMES COLLIER.

One of the grand old pioneers of Sugarcreek township and of Greene county was James Collier, the first lister of Sugarcreek township, the third sheriff of the county and among the first to serve as community coroner. Because of his comparatively short residence in Sugarcreek township, his activities here were somewhat limited.

James Collier was born in Rockbridge county, Virginia, January 4, 1774, and in 1786 his family removed from the Old Dominion to Kentucky, where they remained for several years some eighteen miles north of Crab Orchard. In 1794 young Collier acted as a scout in the Nick-a-jack campaign under Col. William Whitley. Soon after the Wilsons settled in Greene county, James Collier, who was a friend of the family, also came up here and located in section 33, township 3, range 6, probably in the early part of 1797. Collier was present at the house of Peter Borders at the first meeting of the court of common pleas of Greene county on May 10, 1803. He received the appointment to take the enumeration of the township of Sugarcreek on that day and began the work on August 3, finishing the task on the seventeenth of that month. At the first election in the township he was a successful candidate for lister. He remained in the township until 1805, when he removed to the new county-seat town of Xenia, for his duties as deputy sheriff under William Maxwell, who resigned on December 17, 1803. Collier, however, continued to serve as deputy until he was elected to the office.

#### THE FIRST ELECTION IN THE TOWNSHIP.

After the organization of Sugarcreek township on May 10, 1803, the election was held, June 21, of that year at the house of James, not William, Clancy for the purpose of electing the necessary officers for the administration of township affairs. In the poll-book of this election the names of the majority of the residents of the township at the time of its organization are preserved as follow :

## POLL-BOOK

Of an election held in Sugar Creek Township, Greene county, Ohio, this 21st day of June, 1803. Judges, Robert Buckles, James Snoden and Nathan Lamme; clerks, John Wilson and Daniel Thomas.

*The Electors.*—Alexander Armstrong, James Barnes, Alexander Barnes, James Barrett, James Barrett, Sr., James Buckles, Robert Buckles, William Buckles, Samuel Brewster, Ephraim Bowen, James Collier, James Cunningham, Thomas Enis, John Enis, Isaac Garard, Joseph Hale, John Heaton, Jacob Hosier, Nathan Lamme, John McKnight, William Miller, John McLane, Samuel Martin, Ezekiel N. Martin, John Night, Willis Northcutt, Cyrus S. Sackett, Jacob Snoden, James Snoden, Robert Snodgrass, William Snodgrass, Absalom Thomas, Daniel Thomas, William Tanner, John Vance, Abraham Vaneaton, Joseph Vandolah, Daniel Wilson, John Wilson, Sr., John Wilson, Jr.,

As a result of this election William McMillan received the majority of the votes of the township for representative to Congress; James Collier was elected township lister; Joseph Vance, township clerk; Abraham Vaneaton, fence viewer; Robert Snodgrass, John McLane and Robert Marshall, trustees; George Wilson, house viewer.

## THE FIRST ENUMERATION.

In accordance with the duties of his office of trust, James Collier took the enumeration. He made the statement in his report as follows:

A list of all the free males above the age of 21 years within the township of Sugar Creek, Greene county, State of Ohio, begun August 3, 1803; ended on the 10th day of August, in the year of our Lord, 1803.

JAMES COLLIER.

In his reported list several names were included which did not appear in the poll-book of the election in the June preceding; hence some of the forefathers apparently had not availed themselves of the right of suffrage; some had left the township or some newcomers had taken up their residence here. The additional names are the following: Seth Anderson, Samuel Anderson, James Bruce, James Clancy, David Curry, Joshua Carman, Joseph Camel, Samuel Enis, Jeremiah Enis, John Gowdy, Andrew Gowdy, Jacob Harner, Benjamin Harner, John Hale, Thomas Hale, John Irwin, Joseph James, Samuel Martindale, Isaac Martin, Isaac Miller, Robert Marshall, John Marshall, Joseph Robinson, Sr., Joseph Robinson, Jr., Edward Robinson, James Snodgrass, William Snodgrass, Jr., Joseph C. Vance, Joseph Vance, Jr., and John Vance, Jr.

## TWO ASSOCIATE JUDGES.

In the early years of the township, there were two associate judges of the court of common pleas of Greene county who were early settlers of Sugarcreek township. The one, James Barrett, was one of the original associate judges, while the other, James Snoden, who was one of the first commissioners of the county, did not become an associate judge until 1809.

James Barrett, who was a venerable man when he became a resident of Greene county, was a native of Virginia, and although he knew little of court procedure and jurisprudence, he made up for the deficiency in his legal education by a great store of common sense and homely justice. Even though his decisions would hardly stand the scrutiny of a learned judge of the twentieth century, they were rendered in compliance with his deep and stern sense of pioneer justice. His family on coming to Ohio in 1800 located on Dick creek in what is now known as Butler county, but in the autumn of 1801 Barrett set out northward to seek a location for his home where he and his family could open up a farm of their own. When he had advanced as far as Sugar creek he found a tract of land which fulfilled his expectations, and he returned to his family and imparted the intelligence to his stalwart sons that he had decided upon a site for their future operations. His sons accompanied him northward and the father purchased a half section in what later came to be organized as Sugarcreek township. The entire family removed to their new holding on April 12, 1802, and began clearing their new land. After Greene county was erected, the Legislature appointed Benjamin Whiteman, William Maxwell and James Barrett associate judges for the newly organized county on April 6, 1803. Thus it was that James Barrett became one of the first members of the common pleas bench of Greene county. He served until 1810, when his advanced age caused him to lay aside the responsibilities of his judgeship and return to his farm, where his death occurred in May, 1822. He was buried in one corner of the orchard on the old farm.

#### JAMES SNODEN.

One of the most eccentric of all the associate judges that Greene county ever had was James Snoden, who was an early settler of Sugarcreek township. He became a resident of this region in 1799 and built his cabin northwest of the present site of the village of Bellbrook in the southeast quarter of section 2, township 2, range 6. He was an extensive landowner in those early days, his lands embracing all of the eastern part of the above-named section which comprises all the western part of the village of Bellbrook. This he sold to Stephen Bell and Henry Opdyke in 1815, when he removed to Indiana where he died. The first official position which James Snoden occupied in Greene county was that of county commissioner, he being associated with Jacob Smith and John Sterritt as the first board of county commissioners. It was not, however, until 1809 when James Snoden took a place on the bench of the local court of common pleas and his associates at that time were David Huston and James Barrett.

Judge Snoden was an eccentric justice, but with all of this there is



nothing on record which implies that he ever handed down a decision on any case which did not teem with strict justice to the plaintiff and defendant even if his opinion was not couched according to the legal parlance in vogue at that day. Tradition says that the judge was very reluctant to take an oath, so reluctant in fact that he refused to comply with the command of Judge Francis Dunlavy in 1810 and thereupon the recalcitrant associate justice was ordered to the county bastile for contempt of court. When the sheriff, James Collier, received the order to lodge the stubborn justice in jail, he refused to comply with the order of the court, possibly because he saw no ill in the attitude of Judge Snoden and probably because he and the associate judge were old friends. The upshot of the matter was that Collier was also lodged with Judge Snoden in the county jail.

Judge Snoden was very punctual in his attendance on the court of common pleas, but he had a deep aversion to riding, as had many of his neighbors of Scotch descent. He was wont to start out early in the morning from his home in Sugarcreek township and walk to Xenia, arriving there in time for the opening of the session of court. He was once prevailed upon by members of his family to ride while making one of these periodic visits to Xenia, but when he started he neglected to mount his horse. He slipped his arm through the bridle rein and walked leading his horse. The judge no doubt fell into deep meditation upon some occult and elusive point of law, and the horse slipped the bridle and turned his attention toward the more pleasing prospect of wandering through the then unexplored pastures of the Little Miami bottoms. The judge, however, continued his journey undisturbed and did not discover the absence of his mount until he had arrived in Xenia.

#### AN ECCENTRIC BACHELOR.

John McLane, one of the early commissioners of the county, and who served for several years as associate judge after taking the place of James Snoden on the bench, settled in the north part of section 4, township 2, Sugarcreek, range 6, in the last years of the eighteenth century. He came here from Lexington, Kentucky, a confirmed bachelor, with no companions but his dogs and long squirrel rifle. Often at night as he lay courting sleep in his rude cabin, he found his slumbers disturbed by the howls of the wolves and the screams of the panthers around his lonely habitation in the unbroken forest which comprised his holdings. To prevent these denizens of the forest from becoming too friendly, he built and kept up a huge fire in front of his abode.

There is only one instance on record where this worthy celibate experienced the emotion of fear. While at the various log-rollings in the surrounding country, he had heard the settlers boasting of the prowess of their

dogs in fighting wildcats and this made John McLane somewhat envious for the reputation of his own canine associates and he decided to test the valor of his dogs at the first opportunity. While out hunting one day his dogs treed a member of the species wildcat. It was the intention of McLane to drive the cat from its lair into the open where his dogs could have the opportunity to show their prowess. He laid aside his rifle and slowly began the ascent of the tree which was the refuge of the wildcat, but he had not approached to within ten feet of the varmint when it rolled itself into a ball with every hair standing on end. Viciously it glared into the eyes of McLane and screeched out a warning. After repeated attempts to distract the attention of the beast which continued to glare straight into his eyes, the doughty hunter had a sudden attack of the "buck ague" and slowly and cautiously descended the tree. After he had once regained solid earth and possession of his nerves, he shot the cat. In later years when relating this adventure, he maintained that this was the only time when he ever became frightened. It is quite probable that McLane never again attempted to test out the wildcat fighting proclivities of his dogs under such conditions.

When the General Assembly passed laws in the early part of the nineteenth century concerning the establishment of public schools, it received the most bitter opposition of John McLane. Since he was a bachelor, he could see nothing but flagrant injustice in his paying taxes for supporting schools for the children of other persons. His denunciation against the Legislature was very strong, and he denominated the members thereof who voted for these laws "a set of dung-hill gods" from whom he prayed for deliverance.

#### MILITARY HISTORY.

In the days before the War of 1812, musters of the militia of the township were held every other Saturday on the little meadow that lies in front of the Eleazer Williamson house. The militiamen were armed with hoes, pitchforks, wooden guns and with other equally deadly weapons. There, with the aid of stakes driven in the ground at proper places, they were enabled to perform all the movements of the march and drill to the gratification of their commanding officer and the unbounded admiration of all the bystanders.

When the War of 1812 broke out Capt. Anmi Maltbie and Captain Crawford raised companies from residents of the township. The news of Gen. Isaac Hull's disgraceful surrender on August 16, 1812, at Detroit, reached the people of the township on Sabbath morning and like wild fire soon spread all over the countryside. The report had it that the Indians were advancing southward, killing and scalping as they came. On the next morning the whole country was in arms. Every ablebodied man volunteered for service and each furnished his own accouterments and rations. By night not an

ablebodied man was to be found in the whole township, for the volunteer companies had marched northward to Urbana to meet the Indians who were thought to be nearing that place. Soon the scare passed and they returned to their homes. Gen. William Henry Harrison by his signal victories over the British and Indians at the Thames and Lundy's Lane in Canada and Perry's victory on Lake Erie saved the West from the British.

#### IN THE CIVIL WAR.

Soon after Lincoln's call for volunteers, Bellbrook and Sugarcreek township responded nobly and began sending forth their sons to fight for the preservation of the Union. The first soldier from the township to give his life on the field of battle was James Naylor, a resident of Bellbrook. He fell at the battle of Chancellorsville, while fighting doggedly to stop Jackson's invincible flank attack.

During the four long years of war, Sugarcreek township received its full measure of sorrow. It was a loyal township in a banner-winning county, sending, according to the published roster, two hundred and five soldiers to the front.

At present our country is in the midst of another war and again the township has been called upon to give its share of men and money. The township has responded nobly to calls in behalf of the Red Cross and other funds and has subscribed liberally to the Liberty Loans. Above all, many of its sons are now in training for service.

#### EARLY CHURCHES AND MINISTERS.

Among the first, if not the first denomination to have ministers in the frontier settlements, were the Baptists, and the settlement of Sugarcreek township was no exception. The first minister of the gospel in this community was Daniel Clark, a Baptist and one of the most strict of his sect. He preached here in the cabins of the settlers in the early days before the organization of the county as often as once a month. In those days specie was very scarce in the settlement and the salaries of the early ministers were made up of whatever the settlers could give. Reverend Clark's salary consisted mainly of deerskins which were then a very acceptable medium of exchange as well as a common material for clothing. In 1799 he organized in that region the first church society in this section, the Baptist (Predestinarian) church at Middle Run, which is yet an active organization, the congregation's present house of worship being in the extreme southwest corner of Sugarcreek township, just north of Ferry. It is not known what became of this pioneer minister, for his name does not appear in the first poll-book and the first enumeration sheet of the township: hence it is assumed that he left these parts for other fields before 1803.

There have been and are several religious denominations represented in the township and at Bellbrook, among which are the Baptists, above named, the Associate Presbyterians, the Methodist Protestants, the Methodist Episcopal, the Old School Presbyterians, the United Presbyterians, the Christians and the Disciples, all of which are mentioned fully in the chapter on churches.

Another early Baptist minister of Sugarcreek township was Joshua Carman. He became a resident of this locality, where he ministered to the spiritual needs of the settlers, in 1802 settling on the George Wilson farm. Among his various activities he was especially noted for the number of marriage ceremonies he performed. Reverend Carman was a fighter as well as a preacher, because he gave his services to his country in the War of 1812. His death occurred on December 1, 1844, after he had reached the ripe old age of eighty-five, and he was buried one mile south of Bellbrook.

#### THE FIRST MARRIAGE.

The first marriage of any resident of Sugarcreek township was that of John Wilson, Jr., one of the first settlers of Greene county, to a daughter of Jacob Mills, who was one of the earliest residents of the northern part of Warren county. The bride was a sister to the wife of Amos Wilson, a brother to the groom. This marriage took place some time prior to 1803, hence before the organization of Greene county. It was then necessary for the groom to make a long journey to some seat of justice for the territory and there procure the license. When the time came for the ceremony, the bride was living with her sister some twenty-five miles eastward, toward the Ross county line, and it was the intention that the party should go after her and have the ceremony performed at the old John Wilson house. Some objections were lodged against this arrangement by the women who maintained that the license would not be valid in this territory. As usual the women had their way about the matter and the party crossed the Ross county line, where Rev. Joshua Carman, the pioneer minister of the section, performed the ceremony under a leaning whiteoak tree, while the rain poured down upon them. Then the party returned to John Wilson's house where the pioneer festivities of such an occasion were duly celebrated.

#### WILD ANIMALS.

In the early days wild animals characteristic of the Middle West abounded in this locality; in fact, they were a source of food supply before the advent of swine, cattle and sheep. Here the deer came down to the Little Miami to drink, panthers skulked about in the dense forest and made the chills chase up and down the pioneer boy's spine by their screams in the evening

when he would go on an errand to a distant neighbor's house. Wolves by the hundreds made night hideous with their howling in the surrounding forest. Bruin was also represented, and his depredations into the sugar houses of the settlers gave him an unsavory reputation. Between the Wilson settlement and where the town of Centerville, Montgomery county, now stands was a bear wallow. Here these animals would roll themselves in the soft mud like hogs. Nearby was a place where the deer usually went for water, and it was here that the settlers would lie in hiding to acquire their supply of fresh meat. At this place Daniel Wilson performed one of the hunting exploits of the times by killing two bears and one deer all in one evening. Panthers and wolves were numerous and destructive to the farmer's live stock. Even after the county was organized a bounty was placed on panther and wolf scalps by the associate judges.

#### MILLS.

One of the first necessities in the pioneer community was a mill where the early settlers could grind their corn for their coarse hoe cakes, "johnny" cakes and corn "pone." The very earliest settlers of the township used a mortar and pestle, which in turn graduated into a stump-mill. The first contrivance to which the name of mill can be ascribed was built just north of Clio in section 10, township 3, range 5, on the farm then owned by Amos Wilson. This mill, which was of the "corn-cracker" variety, was propelled by hand. When the neighbor brought his corn to the mill for grinding, he furnished the motive power himself, and would pay the owner of the mill a small grist for the use of the "cracker."

What gave a marked impetus to the building of mills in the township and in the county was the coming of Stephen Bell, one of the founders of Bellbrook. Bell was born in New Jersey, August 18, 1774. In his early life he learned to be a millwright. He became a resident of Greene county in the early part of 1812, settling near Xenia. In 1813 or 1814 he moved to Sugarcreek township and from there plied his craft throughout the county in the valley of the Little Miami. Among the mills he built was a saw-mill for Henry Opdyke on Sugar creek in the year 1832 or 1833.

Not long after the first settlement was made and wheat became a product of the township the first flour-mill was built by William Rogers about a mile east of Bellbrook on the Little Miami, about 1809. On this same site a more substantial mill was built at a later date. This latter mill was destroyed by fire about 1870. Along about the same time a man named Staley built a mill on the Little Miami, on the then main road from Bellbrook to Xenia. This mill was rebuilt in 1839 and again in 1877-78. The Washington mill was built in 1832 by Samuel Lamme with Resin Tucker

and Thompson Vaughan as millwrights. This mill was located about two miles northwest of Bellbrook on the Little Miami. Another saw-mill was built by Jeremiah Gest in 1838.

#### THE LOG CABIN AND HARD CIDER CAMPAIGN.

The campaign of 1840, known in the political annals of the country as the "Log Cabin and Hard Cider" campaign, was one of the most remarkable recorded in the history of the United States. In that year Gen. William Henry Harrison, "Old Tip" as he was affectionately called by Whigs in commemoration of his signal defeat of the Indians at Tippecanoe in 1811, and John Tyler were the Whig candidates. This campaign was conducted with great enthusiasm in the settlements where hard cider, corn pone and "johnny" cakes were dispensed with liberal hands at the Whig barbecues. At political rallies and speakings and conventions, log cabins, indicative of the democratic antecedents of the General, were placed on wheels and trundled about with great enthusiasm by the zealous Whigs.

In those days Sugarcreek township was a strong Whig neighborhood, and the Whig residents of the township were busy with their demonstrations. When the time drew near for the great Whig convention at Dayton in the fall of 1840 Henry Harmon, Doctor Clancey, Jesse Sanders, Silas Hale, Ephraim Sparks, Benjamin Allen and Henry Mills, influential Whigs of the township, decided that the township would evince its enthusiasm for "Old Tip" in a unique manner. They concluded that a gigantic canoe mounted on wheels and appropriately decorated would be a fitting emblem to represent the Whigs of Sugarcreek township at the convention. A large poplar tree was selected from the farm of Jerry Gest north of Bellbrook, cut down, slabbed off and delivered in the old Methodist Protestant log church, which stood where the parsonage of that congregation now stands. Henry Harmon and his able corps of assistants set to work and under their zealous efforts the trunk rapidly took the shape of a dug-out canoe. When it was finished, it was forty feet long, twenty-six inches deep and three feet wide, and the sides were two and one-half inches thick. Seats for twenty-four girls were fitted in the craft, which was then painted with red, white and blue stripes, running from end to end. The day before the convention the canoe was mounted on a large wagon and the finishing touches were given it. Here and there flag poles were raised and secured to the boat and live 'coons held in little home-made cages were secured at different places on its deck. When all was ready six horses, each with a full set of bells, were hitched to the wagon and a driver perched on the high seat held the impatient steeds in leash. The twenty-four young ladies, decorated with white and blue sashes and waving flags, took their seats in the canoe, and then the whole

equipage moved forward to its rightful place, the head of the procession. When the canoe passed the grand stand General Harrison, who was present on that occasion, waved his hand in recognition, and while shouts went up on all sides for "Old Tip" the young ladies sang Whig songs with all the volume and enthusiasm they could muster.

After the return home, the flags and banners, the latter of which were painted by Jesse Sanders, were stored in the loft of Henry Harmon's house, which later was owned by Mrs. S. O. Hale, Sr. The canoe, which had served its purpose, was taken from the wagon and launched on the Little Miami at Harner's mills where it was used as a ferry for years.

The following is the list of the names of the twenty-four young ladies who rode in the canoe: Martha A. C. Ellis, D. M. S. Griffith, Kate Hopkins Willoughby, Elizabeth Patterson Brelsford, Lavina Harmon Arbogast, Elizabeth Sebring, Caroline Sebring, Mary Dorsey, Margaret Sebring, Nan Turner Snodgrass, Malinda Snodgrass, Matilda Brewster, Amanda Clancy, Samantha Snodgrass, Elizabeth Emmons, Martha Boroff Mills, Sarah Ann Turner, Cynthia Ann Patterson Warren, Jane Girard Echelberger, Elizabeth Snowden, Martha Sembly Snowden, Mary Harmon Dunham and Phoebe Ann Austin.

#### SUGAR-MAKING.

The Miami valley was famous for the quantity and quality of the "tree" molasses and sugar produced, especially along the second bottom where the sugar trees throve. Thus it was that that portion of Greene county along the two Sugar creeks which form a junction near Bellbrook, eventually became a market of no mean proportions for the product of the sugar tree. In those early days the village of Bellbrook became a center for the marketing of this product in this part of the country and tons of maple sugar were hauled from that village to Cincinnati. An idea of the extent of this industry in Sugarcreek township can be gained from the following, regarded as the earliest official figures concerning the production, these being dated 1850. In the year preceding the farmers of this township "stirred off" 24,524 pounds of maple sugar and 1,457 gallons of maple molasses. Obviously the former product was even at that time a very important commodity of export in this section.

It can then be easily seen that the pioneers of Sugarcreek township in the selection of sites for their homes readily recognized the value of a good sugar grove, which was often such a source of income that it laid a substantial foundation for the farmer's financial success and enabled him to lift the mortgage from his holding. Transportation facilities in those days were so clumsy that corn could not be marketed save in the form of whisky. Eggs sold at three cents a dozen and butter was listed on the market quotations

of the day at a "fip" (six and one-fourth cents) a pound. With sugar it was different, for it sold in Xenia at from eighteen to twenty cents a pound.

In the spring of 1917 there were reported 4,111 sugar trees, from which the residents of the township made forty-eight pounds of sugar and 1,326 gallons of maple syrup. These figures exceed those returned from any other township, hence Sugarcreek township is still deserving of its name.

#### AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS OF SUGAR CREEK TOWNSHIP.

Sugarcreek township is pre-eminently an agricultural district. The census returns of 1850 give data concerning production of Sugarcreek township in 1849, but before comparing these with the agricultural statistics for 1917 it is well to recall that Sugarcreek township was almost twice as large in 1849 as it is now, because Spring Valley township was erected from it in 1856. In 1850 the number of acres of improved land in the township was given as 18,250 and the unimproved land as 13,588; whereas, the report of 1917 returns the total number of acres owned in Sugarcreek township as 16,543. It also should be borne in mind that through some apparent oversight the report for 1917 seems incomplete in several instances.

#### LIVE STOCK.

The following table shows the live stock statistics of the township in 1849 and 1917:

	1849	1917
Horses, number -----	932	732
Cattle, number -----	2,051	1,485
Sheep, number -----	4,294	572
Hogs, number -----	6,226	3,768
Butter, pounds -----	58,974	26,190
Cheese, pounds -----	3,955	-----
Wool, pounds -----	9,979	181

A striking feature of the 1917 report for this township is the number of hogs reported as having died in the township during the year of cholera. During the year there were four hundred eighty-six losses from this disease and twenty-three farms were infected. By the report of 1850 cattle were divided into three groups: Cows, evidently for dairy and breeding purposes; work oxen, of which there were sixteen in the township, and other cattle, beef cattle.

#### GRAIN, SEED, VEGETABLES, ETC.

The table which follows compares the grain, seed, vegetable and miscellaneous production in the township in 1849 with that of 1917:





Bath House.  
Street Scene.

High School.

Government House.  
Township House.

VIEWS IN BELLBROOK.



	1849		1917
Wheat, bushels -----	40,557		36,212
Rye, bushels -----	633		1,106
Corn, bushels -----	226,205	(shelled)	207,110
Oats, bushels -----	17,109		27,241
Barley, bushels -----	50		593
Buckwheat, bushels -----	3,643		----
Flax seed, bushels -----	3,004		----
Clover seed, bushels -----	114		149
Timothy seed, bushels -----	22	(acres cut)	5
Irish potatoes, bushels -----	5,300		2,914
Sweet potatoes, bushels -----	1,197		----
Tobacco, pounds -----	----		53,910
Sugar, pounds -----	24,524		48
Molasses, gallons -----	1,457		1,326
Honey, pounds -----	1,763		56
Hives, number -----	----		41
Hay—			
Timothy, tons -----	----		416
Clover, tons -----	----		791
Total tons -----	7,230		1,207
Alfalfa, tons -----	----		121

MISCELLANEOUS CONSIDERATIONS.

It will be noted that no buckwheat or flax seed is now reported as being produced in the township. There probably was a considerable quantity of tobacco grown in the township in 1849, but there was no return for it in the census report; the same is true of sweet potatoes in 1917. Evidently in this latter year this district was not the bee country that it was sixty-seven years ago, but the fact that forty-one hives succeeded in producing only fifty-six pounds of honey in 1916 shows that the return was not complete or the residents of the township take little interest in furthering the honey production.

The fact that there were several items in the one report which do not correspond with that in the other makes it necessary to deal with them miscellaneously. In 1850 there were 18,250 acres of improved land in the township and 13,588 acres that were unimproved. Bearing in mind the fact that the township was twice as large then as it is now, there were, in 1917, 16,543 acres owned, of which 12,648 acres were cultivated; 1,101 acres in pasture; 2,317, in timber; 106, in orchard, and 317, waste land. The esti-

mated value of all the farming implements in the township in 1850 was \$32,153, but this amount will not compare with what is invested in the same at the present. In that same year the animals slaughtered were valued at \$18,645.

In 1917 the farmers of the township reported eight silos and 217 tons of ensilage. In 1916 there were forty-nine acres sowed in alfalfa, and during the same season seven hundred and twelve acres of clover sod were turned under. At the same time 497,280 pounds of commercial fertilizer was used. The day when the farmer made his own cheese has passed, but large quantities of other dairy products were sold in 1917; for example, milk, 45,840 gallons; cream, 31,916, thus showing the use of the cream separator. The hen contributed her share to the general prosperity of the township by laying 41,160 dozens of eggs. Orchards produced 3,740 bushels of apples. There were nine renters in the township who worked for wages and eleven farms were rented to tenants. No resident of the township was reported as having moved from the farm to the city during the year.

#### THE VILLAGE OF BELLBROOK.

Bellbrook is a historic little village tucked down in the grand old hills of Sugarcreek township. It is located at the intersections of sections 1 and 2, township 2, range 6, and sections 31 and 32, township 3, range 5, on Little Sugar creek, about one mile west of the Little Miami river. From it, roads lead to Dayton, Xenia, Waynesville and Spring Valley. Its population at present (1918) is about two hundred and fifty and is apparently diminishing, according to successive census returns.

The first settler of the locality which was later incorporated into the town was Joseph C. Vance, who entered the land extending along the east side of Main street, which was then a mere path called the Pinkney road. At the time of his settlement here in the spring of 1797, he erected the log cabin on the site which later became the southeast corner of Main and Walnut streets. Following Vance came James Snoden, who later became an associate judge of the county and who in 1799 entered land on which the western part of the village later was laid out. James Clancey, another of the early settlers on the site of Bellbrook, was here prior to 1803, for his name appears on the first poll-book of the first election in the township in June, 1803. When Joseph C. Vance was appointed director of the new county seat of the county he disposed of all his possessions in Sugarcreek township, including his cabin, and moved to Xenia. At the meeting of the associate judges on May 10, 1803, when the county was laid out into townships, the court ordered that the first election on the following June in Sugarcreek township should be held in the house of James Clancey, hence Clancey was the possible

owner of the Vance cabin at that time. It seems to be an undisputed fact that it was this cabin wherein this first election was held. It was in the same house in 1803 that the Rev. Robert Armstrong preached to the little flock of Associate Reform Presbyterians (Seceders), and it was also here that the township organization was brought about in the same year.

Finding that this cabin was thus becoming the center of the activities of the township, James Clancey decided to open up a tavern. Accordingly he erected a more pretentious hewed-log building to the front of the little cabin and raised his tavern sign after complying with the law and receiving his license from the court of common pleas of the county. Apparently he began business in 1816 after the platting of the village of Bellbrook, for his petition to the court for permission was submitted in that year and a careful search through the records fails to reveal any prior application. This application is as follows:

To the Honorable Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Greene county:

The Petition of the undersigned freeholders of Sugar Creek Township Humbly represent to your honors that we conceive a publick house of entertainment in said Township would conduce to the publick convenience; we therefore recommend James Clancey, one of our citizens, as a man of good character and every way Calculated to keep a publick house. We therefore pray your honors would grant him a licence for that purpose and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray—

John Hutchinson, Andrew Bird, Joseph Gillespie, James Gillespie, David Lamme, James McBride, John Clark, John B. Tode, John Blessing, Josiah Lamme, William Standley, Alexander Armstrong.

January 22nd, 1816.

Clancey's tavern thus became the rendezvous for all the surrounding country. In 1820 Clancey sold out his business and moved to Flat Rock, Indiana, where he lived the rest of his days.

#### LAYING OUT BELLBROOK.

In 1814 a couple of energetic men, Henry Opdyke and Stephen Bell, became residents of Sugarcreek township, buying the land which comprises the western part of Bellbrook from James Snoden in the following year, 1815, when the old judge left the county. These two men with James Clancey, who was the proprietor of the land on the east side of the Pinkney road which later became Main street, conceived the idea of laying out a town on this site. Accordingly they set to work. It is not known who did the surveying, for that fact is not recorded on the original plat of the village in Vol 3, p. 471, of the deed record in the office of the recorder at the court house in Xenia. But by February 9, 1816, they had their work finished and submitted the plat to James McBride, the justice of the peace for Sugarcreek township, for certification, and he made the following entry on the plat:

The State of Ohio,  
Greene County.

I, James McBride, a Justice of the Peace in said County, do certify, that before me personally came James Clancey, Stephen Bell and Henry Opdyke, and each acknowledged the within plat of the Town of Bellbrook to be laid out for that purpose. Given under my hand and seal the 9th day of February, 1816.

JAMES MCBRIDE, Justice of the Peace.

On the following day, February 10, the plat and certificate were duly recorded by Josiah Grover, the recorder of Greene county.

#### THE NAMING OF BELLBROOK.

Tradition has it that there was considerable difficulty in choosing a name for the new village and among the names suggested were "Opdykeville" and "Clanceyville," but finally Henry Opdyke hit upon the happy suggestion of "Bellbrook," which met with instant approval. The first part of the name is derived from the name of one of the proprietors, Stephen Bell, and the latter part no doubt come from the fact that Little Sugar creek curves around the southwestern corner of the village.

#### THE ORIGINAL LIMITS OF THE VILLAGE.

Originally, the town was laid out north and south along the Pinkney or Alpha road. This became Main street and it was made sixty-six feet wide. Beginning on the north the first cross street east and west was Walnut which has the same width as Main. Farther south, Franklin street, which is also sixty-six feet wide, crosses Main street in the center of the village. This street is a part of the Xenia road. There are two side streets each thirty-three feet in width, extending north and south parallel with Main, the one on the east being known as East street and the one on the west, West street. They are both thirty-three feet wide. Extending along the southern edge of the village is another, South street, but where it intersects Main street its course is changed from east to west to northwesterly. This street is also sixty-six feet wide. On the original plat there is no street extending along the north edge of the village, but when the Hopkins addition was made in 1849 High street was established and it extends westward from Main street. At some later date Maple street, which is thirty-three feet wide and which extends east and west from one side of the village to the other, was established between Franklin and South streets by widening an alley. This street was first called Hoopole street, then Battle street and finally Maple street.

#### SALE OF LOTS.

By the original plat of the village eighty-four lots were laid out, twenty of which were north of Walnut street, twenty-four between Walnut and Franklin streets and forty between Franklin and South streets. Lot No. 1

is at the southwest corner of Franklin and Main streets. Each lot had a frontage of four rods and was ten rods deep. When all was ready for the sale of lots, the following announcement appeared in the *Ohio Vehicle*, a newspaper then being published at Xenia:

## NOTICE.

The subscribers having laid out the Town of Bellbrook in the County of Greene, Sugar Creek Township, on the great road that leads by James Clancy's tavern, leading from Lebanon to Urbana, and where the road crosses leading from Franklin to Wilmington. The lots in said town will be sold to the highest bidder on Saturday, the 7th day of October, ensuing. The terms of the sale will be made known on the day of the sale. The situation of the town is healthy and convenient to springs which can be easily conveyed through the town. Saw and grist mills within a mile. Adjoining town lands is a stream of water on which all kinds of machinery may be erected.

STEPHEN BELL  
HENRY OPDYKE.  
JAMES CLANCEY.

September 19, 1815.

When the day of the sale arrived, the buyers of lots found Aaron Nutt, a pioneer auctioneer from Centerville, Montgomery county, present to cry the sale. From the nature of the jokes ascribed to him and the amount of liquid refreshment which was generally dispensed on such occasions, the liveliness of the day can readily be imagined. The first lot sold was No. 1, whose location has already been described, and then the remaining were sold in order.

At the time the only house in the village was the Clancey tavern, but soon after the sale James Webb, the village blacksmith, built his house near the corner of Main and Franklin streets on Main. Other dwellings were soon erected, among which were those of David Black, Daniel Lewis, Joseph Gillespie and Aaron Flowers. The latter had some difficulty in raising his house, for he did not have the heartiest co-operation of his neighbors in his undertaking. After the frame had been put up, it was carried off one night by his spiteful neighbors to the creek and there broken to pieces. Others who became early residents of the village were John Bell and Moses Mills.

## ADDITIONS TO BELLBROOK.

As the years passed the steady growth of the town seemed to warrant the laying out of additions. The first of these was made in the latter part of 1830 and was recorded on December 25 of that year. This addition was laid out on both sides of Franklin street, just west of West street and the lots numbered from 85 to 99, hence practically an extension of the original plat of the town. It is not known who laid out this addition, probably the original proprietors of the village.

The second addition to the town was made by John McClure in 1841.

It comprised sixteen lots, south of the addition of 1830, west of West street and north of South street. Moses Collier, the county surveyor at that time, was employed by McClure to do the platting, which was finished on June 12, 1841. On August 14, following, the plat was certified by Edward Bennett, justice of the peace, and on the same day it was recorded at the court house in Xenia.

The third addition was made by A. B. Hopkins. It comprised eight lots lying in a part of section 2, township 2, range 6, located at the northwest corner of the village and its establishment caused the making of High street, which extends from Main westward across West street. The addition was platted on May 24, 1849, by Samuel T. Owens, the surveyor of Greene county.

#### BELLBROOK BEFORE 1832.

As noted before, James Webb, the blacksmith, was the first man to erect a new house on the village site and here he opened up his shop for business. If one of his neighbors wanted a horse shod, a shovel mended or a chain or plow share made, he had to bring the iron along with him, because the smith could not afford to keep sufficient material in stock. A little later his shop was used by Silas Hale, who worked there at cabinet-making. William Holmes also carried on blacksmithing in a shop which stood a little to the rear of the Mills house.

During this time there were several other business interests in the village. Robert Silvers kept a tavern in the house which Aaron Flowers had so much difficulty in building. John Sowards made hats in a shop which stood on the site of the show room which belonged to the Bumgardner carriage shop. This place of business for some unaccountable reason was called the "Old Penitentiary." The first meeting house, which belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church society, stood on lots 1 and 2.

#### THE INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE.

Sixteen years after the plat of the town was certified, the population of the village had grown to such an extent, that it was deemed advisable to have it incorporated. For this purpose Dr. William Frazier, acting on the suggestion of Dr. William Bell and Robert E. Patterson, framed a petition to the Legislature which was signed by many of the citizens of the village. It was favorably acted upon and on February 13, 1832, the village of Bellbrook was duly incorporated. The first officers of the town were: William Bigger, mayor; Abner G. Luce, treasurer, and Silas Hale, marshal. The present officers of the corporation, who took their seats on January 1, 1918, are as follows: J. H. Lansinger, mayor; W. W. Tate, clerk; H. M. Turner, treasurer; R. H. Hopkins, marshal; A. R. Howland, assessor; J. L. Myers,



A. R. Howland, Jobe Anthony and D. H. Hopkins, members of the village board of education.

In the early years of its incorporation, Bellbrook did not need much funds with which to carry on its municipal activities, for on March 9, 1835, there remained "in the treasury of the corporation a balance of \$2.98;" and on February 3, 1836, the coffers of the municipality were replenished by Marshal Hale, who turned over to the treasurer \$26.35, the tax for the year 1835.

#### FIRE PROTECTION.

In order to occupy its position as a fully fledged municipality, fire apparatus was necessary, and the bustling city council on August 11, 1836, "ordered that John R. Dinwiddie be allowed \$23.12½ for fire hooks, ropes and ladders." The paraphernalia was then stored in the south end of the old log meeting house which belonged to the Methodist Protestant church society. What became of it is not recorded.

The first fire of any size destroyed what was known as the Academy which stood near the Old-School Presbyterian church in 1852. This abandoned seat of learning belonged at that time to Harrison Vaughan. In 1855 the large two-story building which stood on the first alley north of Franklin street, off of Main, and in which Ephraim Bumgardner had his carriage shop, was burned. The fire spread to the neighboring livery stable belonging to Samuel Elcock's hotel. The old Magnetic Hotel burned in 1893 and the bath house shared the same fate in 1913. The Bellbrook Inn, the competitor of the old Magnetic Hotel, burned in 1900.

#### THE MAGNETIC SPRINGS.

In 1882 Andrew Byrd, who had bought the old United Presbyterian church at the corner of Main and Walnut streets, began the repair of that building with the intention of making it into a dwelling house. He started to dig a well in the basement of the house but at a depth of only a few feet encountered so strong a vein of water that digging was stopped. When all was ready for the plastering of the house, Robert Butler was employed to do the work and the water with which he mixed the mortar was obtained from the shallow well. To the amazement of Butler, the trowel which he used became magnetized so that it would pick up lath nails and after some experimentation it was found that any piece of steel allowed to remain in the water from this well for a short time would become magnetized.

Immediately the probable medicinal properties of this water occurred to Byrd and a sample of it was taken to a chemist for analysis. This analysis was quite formidable in the matter of the names applied to the various components, and these names appeared especially so when they were emblazoned

upon large advertising posters by the promoter and a local artist. Soon the finding of this "fountain of youth" became noised about in the village and many of the citizens began to take the healing waters for all sorts of ailments. Testimonials were gathered from those thus benefited and these recommendations were sent to the newspapers and were printed all over the country. The free advertising which thus heralded the finding of the "fountain of youth" brought a continuous stream of visitors to Bellbrook, each bringing some kind of vessel in which to carry away a portion of the healing waters. On one Sunday during the first paroxysm of excitement occasioned by the discovery of the "Magnetic Springs," as the well had been named, the streets of the village were completely filled with equipages of all descriptions, and the crowd for that one day alone was estimated at five thousand.

Byrd abandoned his intention of using the old church as a dwelling house and turned the building into a "sanitorium" to which the suffering members of the human race could come for treatment for all manner of diseases. Byrd sought to increase the flow of water by digging the well deeper and wider, but he was not so fortunate as to tap another vein of the precious water. The result was that the increased flow only diluted the strength of the water from the healing source. When it seemed that the financial success of the undertaking was on the decline, Byrd sold the old church and bath house which he had constructed nearby to the Ohmer brothers of Dayton, who turned the sanitorium into a hotel under the supervision of George McIlwain. A long addition was made to the old church on the left and the business continued to thrive. Later the owners of the hotel sold their interests to Arthur Duffy, who owned the establishment until it burned in 1893. Duffy then built a bath house on the site of the old hotel and a dancing pavilion on the hill above. When the enterprise lost its commercial value, Duffy sold bath house, pavilion and well to Michael McMullen, a wealthy member of the city council of Cincinnati, in 1909. McMullen fitted up the pavilion and grounds for a summer home. It was surrounded with well-kept lawns and the beautiful natural scenery of "Mullen Camp," as the place was called, made it one of the prettiest places in the county. But the bath house shared the same fate as the old hotel on October 21, 1913, when it, too, burned to the ground.

Of course Bellbrook had visions of growth. The *Bellbrook Magnet* in 1884 said: "Notwithstanding the extreme cold weather, the demand for magnetic water is still on the increase and the prospects for a boom in the spring is a fixed fact. Now is the time to buy lots."

Some lively members of the community decided that Byrd did not have a monopoly on all the magnetic water in the township and they organized

a company, sold stock and built the Bellbrook Inn on the other corner of Main and Walnut streets, near what was claimed was another spring just as good as the original. As time passed this enterprise ceased to be a paying one and several members of the Bellbrook community have souvenirs of the discovery of the magnetic spring in the form of certificates of stock in the Bellbrook Inn. Finally, after withstanding the vicissitudes of fortune for many years, the Inn shared the fate of its old competitor, the Magnetic Hotel, for it burned sometime in 1900.

#### FIVE HUNDRED INDIANS IN BELLBROOK.

After Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur had bought the lands belonging to the Indians north of the Greenville treaty line by the treaty of St. Marys in 1818, certain tracts were reserved for the remnants of the Wyandotte, Delaware and Seneca tribes. But these reservations were subsequently ceded to the United States. The last of these aborigines of Ohio to leave were the Wyandottes, who turned over their lands to the government in 1842.

During the July of the next year, these Indians, numbering at least five hundred, were removed to Kansas. After they were all collected, they started for Cincinnati, and as the weather was pleasant, they made the journey overland. During that month their long wagon train passed through Bellbrook and they pitched their wigwams between the village and Little Sugar creek, where they prepared to spend the night, and during their brief stay were visited by many of the villagers. The Indians did not remain long, for by seven o'clock the next morning their great caravan had already started on its way toward Cincinnati. From there the redskins boarded a river boat which took them to Kansas, where they were met by their kinsmen who had preceded them.

#### THE ONLY CASE OF HOMICIDE.

The only homicide ever committed in the village or township occurred on February 20, 1858, when Andrew Kirby stabbed John Stanton with a butcher knife. The scene of the tragedy was a house in the southeast part of the village, on East street, belonging to Mrs. Cusic. Kirby immediately ran to the house of Silas Hale, who was then justice of the peace, to surrender himself. Stanton lived only a short time. At the trial Kirby was defended by Hon. Thomas Corwin, but was sentenced to a life term in the Ohio penitentiary.

#### THE PORK INDUSTRY AT BELLBROOK.

In the early days of the Miami country, pork-packing was an important industry in all the small towns of the valley. In those days the farmers drove their hogs to the slaughter houses at or near the village, the carcasses were

then cut up, and the finished product was hauled to Cincinnati by wagon. In later years, after the advent of the railroad, the meat was taken to the nearest station and sent by rail to that city. In those days Bellbrook was an important local center in the pork business and thousands of hogs were slaughtered here and sent down to Cincinnati.

This industry began in Bellbrook on a more or less extensive scale as early as 1835, when B. F. Allen erected a large brick pork house in the village. This building was used for this purpose until Allen retired from the business. As the years passed the business prospered and thousands of hogs were killed for the market in Bellbrook. The four men who were well-known cutters were Joshua Brelsford, Charles Wright, George Sebring and Eber Turner. Sharp Weller barreled the sidemeat. David Snoden had charge of the bulking of the meat in the cellar, where it was cured with lake salt. The kettles for rendering the lard were located on the east part of the building and David Raper generally had charge of this work. The cooperage came from Dayton and Centerville, the barrels and kegs being brought by teams from these two towns. The cracklings were sold to the soap factories at Dayton. After the meat was cured, it was hauled to Spring Valley to be shipped by rail to the markets. After the packing season was over, there being no refrigeration facilities in those days, the pork house was cleaned and whitewashed on the inside. It then became, on account of its size, the social center of the community, being used for singing-schools and the like. These singing-schools were taught by Newton Carman, Thomas Harrison, H. Vaughan and others, at two dollars a term.

In 1839 a slaughter house was erected at the junction of the two Sugar creeks, south of Bellbrook. This was a rough, substantial, low, one-story building, built of hewed logs, and was used for about three seasons or until a flood swept the entire establishment away into the Little Miami and the site was abandoned for slaughter-house purposes. Alexander Hopkins was the manager of the establishment. A second slaughter house was built on Alexander Hopkins' farm on North Main street, near the top of the hill, so that access could be had to the large spring there. This structure of heavy frame was erected about 1843 and in it thousands of hogs were slaughtered. The third, or Western slaughter house, which was erected about 1844, was a substantial frame building, located on the Dayton pike, just west of town near a large spring. This plant could turn out daily from two hundred and twenty-five to two hundred and fifty hogs. Alexander Hopkins also was superintendent of this slaughter house, William Law was "sticker," and Charles M. Rosell had charge of the scalding. The cleaners were Tom Duffy, George Snowden, John Sebring, John Belt, Pat Kirby and others. Some lard rendering was also carried on at the slaughter house and Henry Harmon had charge of this part of the work.

## THE BUMGARDNER CARRIAGE WORKS.

Ephraim Bumgardner established a carriage-manufacturing plant in Bellbrook some time after 1840 and his enterprise was flourishing in the '50s. He had a large two-story building on Franklin street where he carried on his work. In the late '60s and the early '70s the carriage factory, then located on lots 49 and 50 on Main street, had reached considerable proportions, it then consisting of blacksmith, wood-working, paint and trimming shops, and it was said at that time the product of its concern surpassed that of any other place in southern Ohio. It was the custom in those days for the employees of the carriage shop to board at Bumgardner's house and among those who thus sat at their employer's table in the late '60s were Horatio Kemp, Albert Blease, Alva Smith, Albert Kemp, Harry Butler, Lewis Raper, Thomas Gibbons, William Luce, "Bud" Truman, William Davis, Theodore Schaffer, Samuel Raper, Samuel Willoughby, William Willoughby, William Thorne, John Cathers, William Cathers, Patrick Gibbons, Lewis Dingler, James Maloney, Charles Cunningham, Charles Mills, Amos Harnish, Baty Weller and John Weise. This enterprise ceased some thirty or forty years ago.

## A PIONEER UNDERTAKER.

In the early days before the coming of the undertaker to this section people would prepare, with the help of their friends and neighbors, the bodies of their loved ones for burial. The first undertaker in Sugarcreek township and one of the first in Greene county was John M. Stake, who was actively engaged in this business in Bellbrook for sixty years at least and was in 1897 the oldest living member of his profession in the county if not in the state.

John M. Stake was a native of Maryland, where he was born on October 20, 1808. When he was eighteen years of age he began learning the trade of cabinet-maker, and in 1834 began plying his trade and undertaking at Boonesborough in that state. He had married in the meantime and in 1838 he removed to Bellbrook where he bought out the business of Andrew Byrd, who was engaged in cabinet-making here at that time. Stake's place of business stood at the corner of West and Franklin streets, where he manufactured coffins and furniture for many years. He was one of the first men in the county to have a hearse and the first person buried from this hearse in the township was the father of Michael Swigert, Sr., whom Stake interred in the old Beaver creek church yard. Before the day of the hearse, the coffin was called for at the shop, the corpse put in it at the residence, and then hauled to the cemetery in a common wagon. Stake made some of the early interments in the pioneer cemetery at Bellbrook, and

in 1852 he buried the first person, Mrs. Rachel Hopkins, in the new Bellbrook cemetery. He also buried the first person in the Catholic graveyard at Dayton. Formerly there was a graveyard located on a mound near the Tresslar mills, but it has long since been abandoned. Stake made the first interment in this cemetery and the corpse was taken across the Little Miami in a canoe, as the river was too high to be forded and there were no bridges. The first horse Stake used when he came to the village cost him five dollars, and, although it was somewhat lame, it was a serviceable animal as a hearse horse for many years. During the many years that he was in business, Stake buried between five thousand and six thousand bodies.

#### THE INVENTION OF THE FIRST REAPER.

It is said that Bellbrook is the place where the first machine for cutting wheat was invented. In his little work shop in an obscure part of the village the inventor, Jesse Sanders, a mechanic, had worked on the problem of perfecting a machine which would eliminate the cradle. He worked on the reaper at his spare time from 1840 until 1845, and finally it was completed. During this time he had taken into his confidence Ephraim Sparks and Captain Fryant, who gave him some valuable suggestions on the mechanism of the machine. On the day appointed for the testing of the reaper a large crowd of the villagers and neighboring farmers congregated at the farm of Jacob Haines to see the reaper tried out; but, as the story goes, a stranger was also in their midst and he examined the reaper carefully and made many inquiries concerning its construction. The bystanders thought little of the man's actions at the time, for they were intensely interested in the little machine which had acquitted itself so well at its first test. It is said that when the McCormick Company of Chicago put a reaper of exactly the same pattern on the market in the following year, a suspicion was created in the minds of the neighbors of Sanders that the affable stranger seen on that day was none other than one of the agents of that company and had appropriated Sanders' invention. Sanders never realized anything for his labors and died a poor man after giving to the world one of the greatest inventions of the age.

#### TAVERNS, HOTELS AND TRANSPORTATION.

The first tavern was the old Clancey House which has already been described. Another was called the Mansion House. This latter had a very high sign post in front with the name emblazoned on it in large characters. A part of this old tavern is now used for a dwelling, the last house on South Main street on the west side. On the northwest corner of Main and Franklin streets was the Eagle Exchange with its sign post. The Green Bay Tree, a brick building on the west side of North Main street and which is still

standing, was also a well-known center in the earlier days. One of the most interesting of these taverns was the Eagle Exchange which still stands on the corner before mentioned. Alongside its great chimney is the old tavern bell in its little belfry, where it has hung for almost three-quarters of a century.

In the early '40s a stage line was run from Dayton to the Little Miami railroad at Spring Valley, and Bellbrook, which is four miles distant from the latter place, was a station on the stage line. The coach drawn by six prancing horses of the best blood, each in a fine set of harness and with a full set of bells, would rumble in from the west from Dayton along Franklin street and stop at the Eagle Exchange. When the stage was all ready to resume its journey toward Spring Valley, the driver would wind his bugle and the passengers would clamber up into their seats, and with a parting blare of the horn, the stage would start away. Oftimes the bugler would continue his calls until they would die away in beautiful echoes among the surrounding hills.

During the latter part of the past century several railroads were projected through Bellbrook and Sugarcreek township, and at one time two surveying parties crossed their chains in the southwest part of the village. All of these activities were considered a good omen, but still Bellbrook and the entire township has no steam railroad. In the '70s many of the citizens of the town had visions of the place becoming a bustling manufacturing center, if it could only be favored by having a railroad pass through it. The town, however, was forced to wait the advent of the electric cars. The Dayton & Xenia Traction Company projected a line through the village to Spring Valley from Dayton during the latter '90s and on March 5, 1900, the first car passed through the town. The cars began to run regularly on Monday, April 23, following, and on that day general business in the village was laid aside to greet this beginning of a new era for Bellbrook. The first car arrived at half past seven in the morning, and those of the citizens of the village to board this first car were Harry Weaver, Frank Newland, J. H. Racer, Charles Mills, Doctor Hook, Frank Pennewit, Patrick Gibbons, Mrs. John Marmon, Miss Caroline Harmon and Miss Emma Racer. Thomas Degnan was the conductor and E. W. French the motorman. During this first day eight cars arrived.

#### GROWTH AND DECLINE OF BELLBROOK.

The growth of Bellbrook was about normal and reached its zenith in 1850, when the population of the village was five hundred and two. The "two" were colored, and one of them was Lucretia Johnson, more familiarly known as "Aunt Cressie," who was held in high esteem by her white neigh-

bors. The population in 1870 was 369; in 1880, 425; in 1890, 350; in 1900, 352, and in 1910, it was 238. It is thus apparent that Bellbrook is having the same experience as hundreds of the smaller towns in the United States, where there is a concentration of population in the larger cities.

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS AT BELLBROOK.

About 1812, three years before the village was laid out, James Gowdy, the first merchant at Xenia, decided to extend his business by establishing a store in the settlement which later became known as Bellbrook. He opened a store in a little log cabin which stood at about the northeast corner of Lot No. 50, but soon found that the business would not pay and he left the place for a more promising field. The first blacksmith to locate in the village was James Webb, who came in 1815. Silas Hale was the cabinet-maker. John C. Hale, Sr., was the tanner. John Sowards furnished hats for the masculine members of the community. In 1840 the following men had stores: Benjamin Allen, Silas Hale and the firms of Harris & Allen and Harris & Larew.

In the early '70s the business interests of the village were in the hands of the following: Alexander Patterson and Harry Richards, shoe shops; Samuel Lamb, Samuel Dinwiddie and Jesse Watson, wagon shops; Samuel Lamb and Charles Killian, cooper shops; Brazil Pancoast, Jacob Boroff and Charles Miller, blacksmiths; Ross Tampsett, pump shop; John M. Stake, cabinet-maker and undertaker; Joseph Black, drug store; Thomas Austin, grocer; William Hopkins, dry goods; Campbell's grocery; Silas Hale, general store; Mrs. Farley, grocer; Ed. Kline, tin store; Ephraim Bungardner, carriage factory and livery stable.

The business interests of Bellbrook in 1918 are in the hands of the following: Automobile dealer, J. Z. Myers; blacksmiths, Charles F. Mills and Eugene Pennewit; cabinet-maker, John Stake; carpenter, J. T. Finley; coal, W. H. Hodges; furniture, John Stake; garage, Hess Brothers; groceries, C. F. Schwartz, J. S. Turner & Son, O. R. Peterson & Company, W. H. Hodges; livery, James Crowl; physician, Dr. G. C. Hook; postmaster, H. M. Turner; restaurant, W. W. Tate; saw-mill, John Weaver; undertaker, James Crowl.



## CHAPTER XIV.

### XENIA TOWNSHIP.

The four original townships of the county erected by the first meeting of the associate judges on May 10, 1803, could not long retain their original extent, and the first township organized after the government of the county had been established was Xenia township, August 20, 1805.

The erection of Xenia township was not brought about by the associate judges, but by the county commissioners, to whom the court of common pleas had turned over the county business in the spring of 1804. It was at a meeting of the board of county commissioners held on the date mentioned above that the following order was issued:

On the Petition of James Collier, John Sterritt, James McCoy and others, it was considered by the Board of Commissioners that there shall be one Township composed out of part Ceasars Creek and Beaver Creek Townships in the following manner:

All the part of Beaver Creek Township, East of the little Miami and above the Mouth of Massies Creek; thence with Beaver Creek Township to the North East corner of Sugar Creek Township; thence with the Sugar Creek Township line to the mouth of Andersons fork; thence up the main fork of Ceasars Creek with the meanderings thereof to the East line of the County; thence North with said line to the North East corner; thence West to the Miami; thence down the River to the beginning; which shall be called and known by the Name of Xenia Township, and the first election shall be held at the house of William A. Beatty in Xenia.

JOHN PAUL, Cl'k.

#### ORIGINAL BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWNSHIP.

From the above order of the commissioners the extent of Xenia township can be described with a fair amount of clearness. Evidently the place of beginning was the mouth of Massies creek and then the line of the township extended due southward to the mouth of Andersons fork, a tributary of Cæsars creek. The line from that point followed Cæsars creek, presumably up the north branch, to a point in the northeast corner of what is now New Jasper township, which is about eight miles north of the south county line and seven miles west of the east line of the county. The locus of this point is not exactly determined by the order of the commissioners, but it was established before Silvercreek township was cut off from Cæsarscreek township in 1811. From this point the line of Xenia township extended due eastward to the east boundary of the county. From thence the eastern boundary of the township ran northward to the northeast corner of the county, whose

boundary had only a few months previously been established along the line of the southern boundary of the ninth range of townships by the erection of Champaign county. From this point the line of the township extended westward, coincident with the northern line of the county, to the Little Miami river, down which the line extended to the point of beginning, the mouth of Massies creek.

Xenia township at the time of its erection was bounded on the west by Beaver creek and Sugar creek townships; on the north mostly by Beaver creek township and a short distance on the eastern end of the northern boundary by Champaign county (Clark county not being organized then); the east and a part of the south by Cæsars creek township. Some of the townships of the county have been erected wholly or partly out of territory which formerly was embraced within the boundaries of Xenia township, such as the greater part of what is now Xenia township, Cedarville township, Ross township, Miami township, New Jasper township, and Vance township.

#### CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Not long did Xenia township retain its unbroken extent to the eastern boundary of the county. On June 8, 1808, the commissioners erected Miami township which was set off partly from Xenia township and partly from Bath township. The southern boundary of the new township was determined by the north boundary line of section 5, township 3, range 7, and its line extended eastward to the county line. Thus Xenia township lost all of its territory east of the Little Miami and north of the present southern boundary line of Miami township.

At the same meeting of the board of commissioners on June 8, 1808, Xenia township had an acquisition of territory west of the Little Miami, from Beaver creek township. It was then "ordered that the following tract or part of Beaver Creek Township, East of the line hereafter mentioned, be struck off and attached to Xenia Township; viz., Beginning at the North East corner of Section No. 5, Township 3 & Range 7, thence south to the Little Miami." This tract now forms in part the northwest part of the township at present. The township was again shorn of considerable territory on the east by the erection of Ross township on March 4, 1811. The western boundary of the new township began at the northwest corner of Silver creek township, where the line of Xenia township left the course of Cæsars creek and extended east to the county line. From that point the west line of the new township proceeded northward to the Miami township line.

The loss of the territory comprising Ross township was partly compensated for by a gain of territory at the expense of Beaver creek township

in 1816. It was then "Ordered by the board of Commissioners that so much of Beaver Creek Township as lies below the mouth of Massies Creek and running down the meanderings of the Little Miami so far that a due South line to the line of Sugar Creek Township will include the dwelling house of Jonathan Paul & Jacob Hisewonger, be and the same is hereby attached to Xenia Tp. It is therefore ordered that Moses Collier survey said line and make report thereof the 4th day of July, next, and that Robert Gowdy agreed to pay all expenses of survey &c." On December 2, 1816, the board of commissioners acted favorably upon a petition for the addition of a part of Sugarcreek township to Xenia township. The following appears on the record book of the commissioners for that date: "On the petition of Frederick Bonner & others, praying for (illegible) of Sugar Creek Township as may be East of a line commencing on the (illegible) line of Sugar Creek Township, at the corner of Beaver & Xenia Townships, and to run South untill it crosses Gladly Run; thence to run a South East course so as to intersect Xenia Township line about the South West corner on Cæsars Creek, to be attached to Xenia Township." Thus with a few minor later changes, the western boundary of Xenia township was determined by 1817.

The eastern boundary of the township was not determined until after the erection of Cedarville and New Jasper townships, respectively, in 1850 and 1853. Before the erection of these two townships, the southeastern boundary of Xenia township was Cæsars creek and the eastern line of the township was the western line of the present township of Jefferson produced until it intersected the southern border of Miami township. The erection of Cedarville township restricted the township of Xenia within its present northeastern borders and the part of New Jasper township north of Cæsars creek was stricken off from Xenia township. Thus Xenia township was in general confined to its present borders by 1853.

#### THE PRESENT BORDERS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

The present irregular shape of Xenia township has not resulted from the caprice of the surveyors who have platted it or its residents, but seems to have arisen from the formation of the townships which have been stricken in part from its territory. The fact that certain petitioners wished to become residents of the new townships formed caused them to have the surveyor to include their farms within the newly erected political units of the county. The fact that their farms lay in that part of the county where the military surveys obtained, made the resulting line of the new townships irregular. It follows then that the western line of Xenia township is fairly regular, but the one on the east make the township look like a patch

in a crazy quilt. Beginning at the northwest corner of the township, the line runs east one-half mile, thence north one-half mile, thence east about one and one-half miles, thence south one mile, thence east to the river, thence abruptly southward after crossing the river a short distance about one-half mile. The line then runs southeast about three miles; thence south about a mile; thence east in an irregular course; thence in a line bearing somewhat west of south to a point not quite a mile south of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad; thence southwest one mile, southeast one-fourth of a mile, southwest one-fourth of a mile, southeast one-half a mile, southwest a half mile and southeast one mile to Cæsars creek. From this point the line follows the meanderings of the creek for about three miles to the Peterson farm; thence north three-fourths of a mile; thence a little north of west three miles; thence one-fourth mile northwest to the Columbus pike, which it follows a quarter of a mile northeast; thence northwest one mile; thence a little west of north about a mile and a half; thence north three miles to the Little Miami which it follows a mile northeast; thence north one mile, west one-half mile, north one mile, west one-half mile and north a mile and a half to the place of beginning. This gives one a conception of the broken boundary line of Xenia township.

Xenia township is touched by eight townships. It is bordered on the northwest by Bath; on the north by Miami; on the northeast by Cedarville; on the east by Cedarville and New Jasper; on the southeast by Cæsarscreek; on the south and southwest by Spring Valley; by Beavercreek on the west, and the corner of Sugarcreek township touches Xenia township on the southwest.

#### TOPOGRAPHY AND DRAINAGE.

In general the level, prairie-like areas of the township lie to the west and northwest of the city of Xenia and the more hilly and rolling sections are in the eastern and southeastern parts of the township. The parts of the township which are rough are found to the southeast along Cæsars creek and where Massies creek cuts the northeast part of the township in the vicinity of Wilberforce. The average elevation of the township is approximately nine hundred and fifty feet. The lowest elevation is where the valley of the Little Miami leaves Xenia township and enters Beavercreek township, this point being here about eight hundred and four feet above sea level. The highest point in the township is ten hundred and eighty-eight feet above sea level, which point is located about two and one-half miles southeast of Xenia on the Wilmington pike. Even though the valley of the Little Miami is wide and very productive, it is flanked by higher land which stretches away eastward in a broad plateau some one hundred feet higher than the level of the valley. A very large part of the soil of the township admits of

cultivation and at present of the thirty thousand acres of land owned in the township, twenty-seven thousand have been brought under cultivation. In the main this arable land produces excellent crops of wheat, corn and oats, and the fine blue-grass pasture lands afford thousands of horses, cattle, and sheep ample grazing lands. In the pioneer days, the township was covered with an excellent growth of fine hardwood timber—oak, walnut, sugar and some cherry—but these forested areas have melted away before the axes of the incoming settler and their descendants. This cutting away of the forests has had a decided effect upon the drainage of the township, a part of which was formerly covered with swamps. When the city of Xenia was young, its site was so swampy that the hogs of the early residents wallowed in Main street and disported themselves in the ooze of the court house yard. With the cutting away of the timber and the extended use of drain-tile ditches, this has all changed.

The drainage facilities of the township are excellent, for it lies in the basin of the Little Miami river, which, with many of its tributaries, cut courses through the soil of the township. The river enters the township on the north and flows southwestward across the northwest corner. The first tributary of the river on the north in the township is Jacoby branch, which rises in the western part of Miami township, flows southward into Xenia township and empties into the Little Miami a short distance south of Goes station. Conner branch finds its source in the extreme northwestern corner of the township and flows southeastward into the Little Miami. Massies creek, named for Nathaniel Massie who was one of the early district surveyors of the military land, rises near Cedarville and flows in a general westward direction until it reaches a point a short distance north of Oldtown where it is joined by Oldtown run. The stream then empties into the river about a half-mile northwest from the village of Oldtown. Shawnee run, at the forks of which the site of Xenia was chosen in 1803, enters the Little Miami about three miles and a quarter west and a little north of the county seat. Gladly run, a small stream which finds its source in the southeastern part of the township, flows westward a mile and then turns southwest and leaves the township at its southwest corner. This stream then continues southwest and empties into the Little Miami not far from Spring Valley. Cæsars creek forms the southeastern boundary of the township.

#### THE FIRST ELECTION OF XENIA TOWNSHIP.

Before the erection of Xenia township the residents in the greater part of this territory wended their way through the forests southward to the house of William I. Stewart in the town of Cæsarsville where they voted as residents of Cæsarscreek township. When the commissioners erected the

new township of Xenia at their meeting on August 20, 1805, they ordered the first election in the new township to be held at the house of William A. Beatty, the first tavern keeper and the director of the new town of Xenia, for the purpose of electing the necessary township officers. In order that all elections in the township held during that autumn might be held on the same day, the township election was deferred until the regular fall election on October 14, 1805.

The poll-book of that first election is given with all its excessive capitalization and misspelled words and names; after each misspelled name there follows the correct spelling:

This is a Poll book of the Election held in Xenia Town Ship, Green County, State of Ohio, on October the 14th, in the year of our Lord, one thousand Eight hundred and five. Alexander McCoy, Henry Henly [Henry] Hanes, John Pull [Paul], Judges, & John Kindal [Kendall] & Charles Moore, Clerks of the Election, were severally sworn as the Law Directs Previous to there [their] Entering on the duties of there [their] Respective offices—as I, one of the justices of the piece [peace] Do Certify.

(Signed) W. M. McFARLAND.

*The Electors.*—Josiah Grover, John Burrell, John Paul, John Ruth, William Yates, William McConnell, Francis McCoy, John Alexander, William Ruth, William King, John Marshall, William McClelling [McClelland], Michael Follom, John Stevens, Samuel Christwell, John Mendinghall [Mendenhall], Thomas Bull, Richard Bull, William Kindell [Kendall], Bues [?] Haregrave [Hargrave], Davis Edge, William Gardner Sutton, Samuel Brazelton, John Anderson, Moses Collier, Jacob Cutler, David McKay, David Bonnor [Bonner], James Spain, James McKay, Moses Hoggate [Hogate], James Dunkin, Bennet Maxey, William Edge, James Hail [Hale], Thomas Simson, Samuel Ruth, John Goode, Daniel Cottrell, Alexander McCoy, Adam McConnell, Thomas Townsley, Robert Bogas, Samuel Anderson, James Bruce, James Towler, Frederick Bonner, Gray Gary, William McFarling [McFarland], Robert Davis, John Luis [Lewis], William Hillis, Berry Aldridge, John Hoop, James Townsley, John Gregg, James Bonner, James Morrah [Morrow], James Stevenson, Theodore Spain, James Butlar [Butler], William Gorden [Gordon], Joseph Wilson, Joseph Sterrot [Sterritt], John Townsley, John McCoy, David Hillis, Andrew Gipson [Gibson], William Gipson [Gibson], Joseph Kile [Kyle], Benjamin Hanes, William Stevenson, John Williams, William Anderson, James Barkley [Barclay], Thomas Pirkens [Perkins], Paris Horney, Samuel Kile [Kyle], Richard Mendinghall [Mendenhall], David Lawhead [Laughead], John Ervin, John Hillis, James Porter, Joseph Spencer, Robert McCoy, Membrane [Remembrance] Williams, Nathaniel Porter, Benjamin Laird, James Bull, Charles Moore, John Bull, Henry Haines, Dems [Dempsey] McDaniel, Jacob Steel, Wm. A. Beatty, Alexander McCoy, Jr.

It is Certified by us that the No. of allectors [electors] at this Election amounts to Ninety-six.

Attest:

Charles Moore  
John Kendall, Clerks.

JOHN PAUL  
HENRY HAINES  
ALEXANDER MCCOY, Judges.

The names of the electors have been given in the order in which they occurred on the poll book, and from this list can be determined the majority of the residents of the township at the time of its erection. It is quite probable that there were some electors in the outlying districts of the township, which extended almost from the Little Miami to Cæsars creek and to

the northeast corner of the county, who could not find it convenient to come to Xenia on the day for the election. It is certain that the story of the life of each one of these earliest residents of the township would be most interesting to the present generation of readers, but the narrative of their struggles, joys, sorrows, manner of living and the like is for the most part lost forever.

#### THE EARLIEST ENUMERATION SHEET.

As is seen in the histories of some of the other townships, additional names of old settlers were found in the old enumeration sheets which were compiled by the listers. It is quite probable that such listing of "freemen over the age of twenty-one years" was ordered soon after Xenia township was erected, but, if there was such a list, it has unfortunately been lost. The earliest enumeration sheet of the township was compiled by Moses Collier, the authorized lister, in 1807. From his list the names of residents of the township, as it then was bounded, are added, as follows:

William J. Aldridge, John Allen, William Allen, James Anderson, John H. Anderson, Daniel Anderson, Samuel Alexander, Mathew Alexander, Angelo Adams, Ephraim Adams, Bartholomew Berra, William Bull, John Boyd, David Boyd, Elias Bromagen, Daniel Boyle, Jonathan Brown, James Bunton, Henry Baldwin, Elisha Bales, Jonathan Bales, Samuel Bone, William Burnside, George Bobletts, Elkanah Bramlett, Henry Bray, Walter Creswell, William Campbell, Benjamin Cutler, Cornelius Collins, James Collier, Joseph Conkelon, Andrew Cronk, John Chambers, Elgin Driskoll, John Donnelly, Andrew Davisson, John Dooley, Elijah Embree, John Ellis, William Ellis, William A. Ellis, Michael Fullam, John Fires, Benjamin Grover, Samuel Gowdy, Thomas Embree, James Gowdy, Robert Gowdy, Samuel Gamble, John Graham, Joseph Graham, Thomas Godfrey, John Galloway, John Gaddis, Mathew Hillis, James Hillis, Sampson Hillis, Jacob Helmick, Joseph Hammel, Robert Hammel, Enos Holland, Tinsley Heath, James Hickman, William Hickman, William Horney, James Hays, Ahab Inman, John Irwin, James Junkin, William Junkin, Arthur Johnson, David Johnson, Reuben Johnson, Phillip Jackson, Abraham Larue, James Lynn, James Lloyd, John Lloyd, Samuel Lynn, William Leonard, John McClure, David Mitchell, John Mitchell, James Miller, Jacob Miller, William Miller, Horatio Maxey, John McFarland, Robert McFarland, David McCoy, James McCoy, Daniel McMillan, John Mitten, John Mattox, James Merrifield, John Marshall, William Morgan, Evan Morgan, Isaac Maitland, Levitt McDaniel, Wilson McDaniel, Isaiah McDaniel, George Merriman, Aaron Mendenhall, Adsit McGuire, Nieuwanger, James Neeley, Sr., James Neeley, Jr., Michael Peterson, John Porter, Joseph Porter, Samuel Picklesimer, William Price, David Price, Eli Pendry, Jonathan Paul, Henry Phenix, John R. Robbins,

Stephen Roper, Alexander Ross, Conrad Richards, Arnold Richards, Andrew Scott, Moses Scott, John Stull, William Stanton, Hezekiah Sanders, Calvin Sayre, James Small, Michael Spencer, James Stevens, John Street, John Sale, Frederick Shagley, John Shagley, John Sterritt, William Stanfield, William Townsley, John Tucker, Joel Thornburgh, Isaac Vandeventer, Jonathan Wallace, Jonathan H. Wallace, Thomas Whalen, James White, William Ward, George Ward, William Witty, John Wilson, Stephen Winter, James Winter, Jesse Watson, John Watson, Arthur Watts.

## MILITARY LANDS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Since the greater part of the territory of Xenia township lies east of the Little Miami, it falls within the lands which were set apart as a Virginia military reservation for the veteran regiments of Old Dominion in the Revolutionary War. In the list of these lands which follows not all of the surveys are included *in toto* within the borders of the township; it has been the intention to include those surveys which are partly included in the township.

<i>Name of Proprietor.</i>	<i>Survey.</i>	<i>No. of Acres.</i>
John Jameson -----No.	387	1,200
Henry Bell -----	389	1,000
John Stokes -----	390	1,000
George Scott -----	429	1,000
John Woodford -----	516	2,200
George Gray -----	603	990
William Dark -----	870	130
John Fowler -----	929	1,000
John Woodford -----	1391	2,500
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2236	1,000
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2237	1,000
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2239	1,000
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2240	1,000
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2241	1,000
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2242	1,000
Warner and Addison Lewis-----	2243	1,000
Jacob Brown -----	2263	965
Archibald Campbell -----	2264	1,000
Charles Bradford -----	2277	1,200
Charles Bradford -----	2278	1,200
Lewis Booker -----	3576	475
George Holland -----	3586	250
William Croghan -----	3912	750
John Harvie and Beverley Stubblefield-----	4340 and 4422	250



Daniel Bailey -----	4819	17
George Galloway -----	7280	40
Robert D. Forsman -----	10864	33½
Pamelia and Penelope Russel -----	2567	826 1/3
William Fowler -----	760	1,000
Pamelia and Penelope Russell -----	2565	1,730
James Knox -----	701	700
Alexander Parker -----	577	300
James Galloway, Jr. -----	7011	70
Warner and Addison Lewis -----	2272	1,000
Archibald Campbell -----	2265	1,000
William McGuire -----	1240	666 2/3
John Woodford -----	1392	2,500
Richard C. Anderson -----	2383	2,533 1/3
John Woodford -----	548	2,200
Beverley Stubblefield -----	3099	200
James Fowler -----	4651 and 4626	266

Of these thirty-four original proprietors of military land in Xenia township a few more than one-half were veterans of the Revolutionary War; they were Lieut. Henry Bell, Lieut. Jacob Brown, Lieut. Charles Bradford, Lieut. Archibald Campbell, Maj. William Croghan, Col. William Dark, Capt. George Gray, Lieut. George Holland, Col. John Jameson, Col. Richard C. Anderson, Capt. John Stokes, Maj. William Russell, Capt. Beverley Stubblefield, Maj. Alexander Parker, Maj. James Knox and Lieut. William McGuire. Moreover, reference to the first poll-books and the first enumeration sheets of the township and of the townships from which Xenia township was erected, reveals that not one of these original proprietors became residents of the township. The remainder of these original proprietors were either land speculators, who had purchased the land warrants from the veterans, heirs of the old soldiers or district surveyors who had found land in the military reservation for which no warrant had been issued.

#### CONGRESSIONAL LANDS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Only a small part of the territory of the township falls west of the Little Miami river and is included in the congressional land of the county. This region comprises the northwestern corner of the township, on the western bank of the Little Miami. By section, township and range, these lands are as follows: Fractional sections Nos. 6 and 4 and whole sections No. 5, township 3, range 8; whole sections Nos. 35 and 36 and fractional sections Nos. 23, 28, 29, 33 and 34, township 4, range 8. Unfortunately the remainder of the township was not laid out in regular sections, as is the con-

gressional land, for the irregularity of the military surveys has resulted in many boundary disputes and attending litigation.

#### EARLY SETTLERS OF XENIA TOWNSHIP.

The fact that the county seat was established in Xenia township makes the history of the township center in the county seat. The city of Xenia has contained more than half of the population of the township for at least a hundred years, and for a number of years it has contained about one-third the population of the entire county.

So many of the early settlers of the township were residents of the town that there is not much left to say concerning those who settled in the township outside the town. Again, so many of the land-owners lived in the town that they are identified with the town rather than with the township. The poll-books and enumeration records which have been cited give the names of all the first settlers of the township, and it is not necessary to enumerate them again.

Prominent among the early settlers of the town and township might be mentioned the following: Frederick Bonner, David Laughead, Henry Hypes, the McCoy family, Hugh Andrew, the Gibson family, John Gregg, the Collins family, Edward Watts, Col. James Morrow, Samuel Goe, James Butler, Thomas Perkins, Remembrance Williams, the Gowdy family, John Lewis, Bennett Maxey, Peter Pelham, Isaac Maitland, Major William Beatty, the Galloway family, Thomas Steele and scores of other families. Most of these concerning whom any definite information has been preserved are noted in the chapter on the history of Xenia.

#### THE VILLAGE OF OLDTOWN.

The official history of the village of Oldtown is not very interesting, certainly not as interesting as the stories which have found a resting place within its now quiet precincts, stories which go back to the times of the Revolutionary War. A brief statement of the official records of the town, however, may be set forth here in order to give it a respectable setting in the urban life of the county.

It was long after it was a village before anyone thought it necessary to plat the site, or take any steps to set it off from the township in which it was located. In fact, probably its most prosperous years had already passed when John Jacoby and John Neimsick decided to plat it. These two men owned the site, or at least, they owned the part that was surveyed, as witness the following document:

The Town of Old Town [formerly always written as two words] was laid out and surveyed by me in the Month of March, 1838, for John Jacoby and John Neimsick, Pro-

prietors, on part of a Military Survey on the Little Miami River, originally made for Henry Bell, No. 359. Sandusky Street, runs North and South and is sixty feet wide. Cross Street runs west from Sandusky Street, 166 feet on the South line and 191 feet on the North line and is also 60 feet wide. [The remainder of the document gives the size of the fifteen lots.]

Given under my hand the 26th day of March, A. D. 1838.

MOSES COLLIER, Surveyor G. C.

The history of the town for the past seventy years has been uneventful. It has had a succession of small merchants who have served the little community, but its proximity to Xenia has made it impossible for it to grow. At the present time the little hamlet has fewer than two dozen houses, and there is little likelihood that it will ever be any larger. The one store of the village is owned by Fred Towes.

## CHAPTER XV.

### BATH TOWNSHIP.

Bath township was organized by the county commissioners pursuant to an order of that body, dated March 3, 1807, the order stating that the first election was to be held at the house of Andrew Read on April 29, 1807. The township was cut off from Beavercreek township and originally had much more extensive limits than it has today. The order setting forth the provisions for the creation of the township, together with its limits, is here reproduced as it appears on the old records:

Ordered that the Township of Beaver Creek be and the same is hereby divided into two distinct townships by a line running west with the north Boundary of the 5th [illegible word] of Sections in 7th Range of Townships between the Miami River. The south division shall retain the name of Beaver Creek Township, and the first Election Shall be held at the house of Peter Borders in Beaver Creek Township. The north division Shall be called and known by the name of Bath, and the first Election Shall be held at the house of Andrew Read, Esq., April 29, 1807.

This ambiguously defined township seems to have included all of the present Bath township, a small part of Xenia township, most of Miami (certainly to a point east of Yellow Springs), and all that part of the present Clark county north of Bath and such of Miami as it then included. In 1807 there were just four other townships in the county besides Bath: Beavercreek, Sugarcreek and Cæsarscreek, the three organized in 1803, and Xenia, which had been organized on August 20, 1805. When Miami was cut off from Bath on June 8, 1808, the latter township was left with its eastern boundary as it is today, that is, so far as Greene county was concerned. But Bath still continued to include a part of the present Clark county until that county was created in December, 1817. As Bath township remains today it contains thirty-seven full sections and the northwest quarter of section 6 in the southeastern corner of the township. This entire township falls within the congressional township land of the county, and, in fact, is the only township in the county that contains no Virginia military land.

#### TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES.

The surface of the township is uniformly level, with a few elevations of no consequence scattered here and there over the township, the most important of these slight elevations being known as Read's Hill, lying between sections 14 and 15. The township falls into two river basins, Mad river

on the west and the Little Miami river on the east, although most of the surface is drained into the latter through Beaver creek. There was formerly a considerable pond immediately east of Fairfield, but it has disappeared. A number of springs are found scattered over the township and they are the feeders for the numerous small streams that thread the entire township. The Mad river basin is very narrow in the township, a fortunate thing considering the proposed change which is going to befall the township on account of this river. Elsewhere is given in detail how the Miami Conservancy plan is going to change the history of the northwestern part of Bath township. It is sufficient to state in this connection that when the Huffman retarding basin is finally installed in the township, it will remove from township control about seven thousand acres—or about eleven square miles. In general terms, this may be defined as all the land west of the present Ohio electric line, with a narrow strip east of it along the lower part of the line in the township. It is not now possible to indicate what this will mean to the township, but it can not but make a great change in things, especially if, as now planned, the village of Osborn is destroyed.

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

The task of locating the early settlers of Bath township is rendered difficult because of the fact that the township was a part of Beaver creek township for the first five years of the county's growth, and also the fact that the original limits of the township included at least twice as much territory as the township does today. Hence a number, probably half, of the settlers enumerated in 1808 did not live within the limits of the township as it stands today with its restricted boundaries.

It was the custom to enumerate all the inhabitants of a new township as soon as it was organized, so as to keep a check on the voters. The enumeration in the newly organized township of Bath was made by David Sleeth. This list includes all the males over the age of twenty-one, the complete list being as follows:

#### ENUMERATION OF VOTERS IN 1808.

James Andrew, Hugh Andrew, William Anderson, John Anderson, John Adams, Darrow Aims, Zachariah Archer, Samuel Aldridge, John Blue, Sr., John Blue, Robert Blue, David Blue, John Black, George Brown, Samuel Brown, Robert Bell, John Burgess, Samuel Butler, Enoch Bot, Richard Bennett, Jacob Beall, John Badley, James Beck, William Barton, Thomas Barnes, John Buffanbarger, Joshua Bozarth, John Barton, Thomas Baeton, John Botkins, Adam Chambers, James Chambers, Joseph Carpenter, Christopher, John Carpenter, Isaach Cruzan, Job Clemens, John Casad, Sr., John Casad,

Jr., Aaron Casad, Jacob Casad, Sr., Jacob Casad, Jr., Samuel Casad, Abraham Classmire, Isaac Clemens, John Crumb, John Cromwell, John Galloway, Ezra Clark, John Cox, Josiah Carson, Dennis Dunn, Benjamin Deever, Mathew Dinsmore, John Driscoll, Robert Davis, Daniel Davis, Robert Dewitt, George Drummond, Abraham Enlow, William Emmett, Robert Flack, Edward Flood, Jonathan Flood, Benjamin French, John Forgy, James Forgy, Daniel Foley, Arthur Forbes, Thomas Fream, William Freal, William Forqueor, Jonas Forqueor, George Foulk, John Goldsby, Edward Goldsby, William Goldsby, Bridge M. Goldsby, John Goldsby, Sr., James Grimes, Samuel Grimes, John Grimes, William Gregory, James M. Galloway, David Grummen, James Grummen, Nimrod Haddix, William Haddix, John Hall, Jacob Hall, Richard Hall, William Hamilton, Frederick Hosier, Peter Hosier, Ezekiel Hopping, Jeremiah Hopping, Moses Hopping, David Hopping, George Harner, Charles Hefley, Samuel Hulie, Jacob Harbine, David Humphrey, James Johnson, Sr., William Johnson, Arthur Johnson, George Kerkendale, Adam Koogler, Solomon Kershner, Sr., Solomon Kershner, Jr., John Knox, Solomon Kelley, William Lowe, John Lee, Warton Lampton, Justus Luce, Benjamin Luce, Elisha Ladley, John Lardee, Jacob M. Marshall, George Minral, Jonathan Mercer, Robert Mercer, James Miller, Benjamin Miller, Martin Miller, James Miller, Sr., Christopher Miller, Aaron Miller, William Martin, John Martin, William Mears, Daniel Moore, Richard Moore, Sr., Richard Moore, Jr., John Morgan, Charles McGuire, John McCullough, William McClure, Mathias McClure, John McKage, Joseph McCord, William McKenzie, Joseph McCune, Alexander McNary, Alexander McHugh, Samuel McKenney, John McPherson, John McGillard, James McDermitt, ——— McDermont, John Nelson, Philip Petro, Nicholas Petro, Paul Petro, William Pasel, Andrew Reid, Jesse Rush, Jacob Rush, John Rue, John Rousegrant, Jacob Ryan, David Read, Jacob Rudy, Henry Sidensticker, Sebastian Shroufe, Sr., Sebastian Shroufe, Jr., Christian Shroufe, Samuel Stewart, John Stewart, Isaac Stout, John Sleeth, David Sleeth, John Smith, Mathias Smith, William Smith, Spencer Smith, Thomas Seymour, Samuel Stits, Evers Stevens, Borxeen Stout, George Shannon, Elijah Stibbins, Francis Sipe, William Stevens, Simon Shover, Samuel Shoup, Jacob Stoker, William Stoker, Joseph Tatman, James Tatman, Peter Taylor, Joseph Taylor, Isaac Taylor, David Taylor, Henry Taylor, John Templeton, Joseph Tole, Jacob Trubee, John Trubee, Silas Trowbridge, John Tingley, Christopher Trubee, Micajah Tole, Joseph Wadkins, Richard Wise, Ziba Winget, Samuel Winget, Reuben Winget, Jacob Wilson, John Wilson, Michael Wilson, Christian Wilson, Valentine Wilson, Robert Wolburn, Benjamin Whiteman, Ebenezer Wheeler, George Wolf, John Wolf, Sr., John Wolf, Jr., Andrew Westfall, Jacob Vandevanter, Peter Vandevanter, Cornelius Vandevanter.

This list contains the names of two hundred and twenty-six men of voting age, but how many of them lived within the present limits of Bath township will never be known. It is certain that the Clifton and Yellow Springs settlers were listed with the Bath township residents, while a considerable number of them must have lived in what is now Clark county. At the election held at the house of Andrew Read on April 29, 1807, Read himself was elected justice of peace for the west half of this extensive township and Thomas Fream was elected to the same office for the eastern half of the township. It seems that Fream was postmaster at Yellow Springs at this time, a position that he had held since his first appointment on April 1, 1805. James Miller, also here enumerated, followed Fream as postmaster at Yellow Springs on October 1, 1810. Again, it may be noted that another one of the above named voters of Bath, Christopher Shroufe, followed Miller as postmaster at Yellow Springs on October 1, 1813.

#### FIRST PERMANENT SETTLERS.

The first settler in Bath township appears to have been well established some years before the county was even organized in 1803. The year 1800 saw a family by the name of Mercer located on a tract a mile and a half south of the present village of Osborn. Just when the Mercer family came from Virginia to the township is not definitely known, but it was a year or two before 1800. It seems certain that crops were being raised in the township when George Washington was still living.

Mercer had pre-empted a large tract at twenty-five cents an acre, his tract including the site of a large Indian village which had just been deserted only a few years before by the Indians, who, if tradition is right, had been driven from their village by a band of Kentuckians. The Mercers made the township their permanent home, one of the most prominent of the family being H. R. Mercer, who died on June 1, 1873, at the age of seventy.

In 1799 or 1800 there arrived from Kentucky and Virginia a number of families, among whom were the following: George Wolf, Adam Koogler, John Cox and William Wilson. The first child born in the township was Benjamin Wolf, whose birth is recorded in 1800. The settlers recorded in the list of those of voting age in 1808 came largely from Kentucky and Virginia, but it is impossible to trace the sequence of their settlement in the township. It is known, however, that by the time of the opening of the War of 1812 that the township was fairly well settled. During the first decade of the past century there came into the township William, Adam and John Chambers, John and Robert Kirkwood, Nimrod Haddix, James and Joseph Tatman, Robert Frakes and Abraham Huffer. It is not certain that all of these men were living in the present limits of the township, but

most of them were; all have been credited to the township as it now stands.

William Stevenson, Sr., came from Kentucky with his wife and family in 1803 and located a mile and a half east of the present town of Osborn. He had four sons: William, James, Peter and John, the first named being a soldier in the War of 1812. William Stevenson, Sr., died November 11, 1834. There was a large number of the Stevensons in the early history of Bath township, and their descendants are still living in the township.

The Hosier family came from Shenandoah county, Virginia, in 1803, and located on a tract between the present village of Osborn and Fairfield. John Hunt had pre-empted the land, but Jacob Hosier bought the pre-emption rights of Hunt for twenty-five cents an acre and paid the government two dollars an acre for the land. At that time there was one lonely cabin on the site of the village of Fairfield. In 1819, John Hosier, one of the sons of Frederick Hosier, married Mary Haddix, a daughter of Nimrod Haddix, one of the most prominent of the first settlers of the township. John Hosier died on December 24, 1869, at the age of eighty-one and is buried at Fairfield. Most of the other members of the Hosier family located in Beaver creek township.

Nimrod Haddix, Sr., came to Bath township in 1803 to make his permanent home and lived there until he was accidentally killed in 1820 by falling from a load of hay. His son, John, coming in at the same time, died on March 29, 1884, at the age of ninety-seven, and is buried in the Cox cemetery in Bath township. Many interesting stories are related about Nimrod Haddix.

#### SOME SIDELIGHTS ON THE TOWNSHIP.

Every township collects narratives of incidents of interest during the course of a century and Bath has its full share. Some are true, some not, and others combine both fictional and factual features, but all of them have a certain interest to those who call this township their home.

*A Murder Story.*—About the year 1809 sums of money were stolen on the same night from the homes of John Wolf and Dr. John G. Folck, the first robberies of any consequence in the township. About the same time a peddler was robbed and his murdered body thrown into a well nearby. The three robberies were apparently the work of the same party or parties. A number of persons were suspected of the robberies and murder, and finally a man by the name of Kent was arrested on general grounds. It was not possible at the time to fix the crimes on him, but while he was in jail he managed to make his escape through the efficient assistance of a two-inch auger. He was never apprehended, but, so the story goes, he was seen in Canada a number of years later by one of the residents of Bath township



who knew him. Kent informed this man that he could make some startling revelations if he so felt disposed, but it seems that he was not so disposed. Although it was generally supposed that he was connected with the robberies and murder, yet nothing more was done about the matter.

#### TRANSPORTATION.

Mad river runs across the northwestern corner of Bath township, and in the early days of the county's history it was sometimes used to carry produce down the river. This was done especially in the spring of the year, when there was an abundance of water, but it is probable that little trafficking was ever done up the river. The first settlers cut out bridle paths through the woods, but it was at least twenty years after Mercer came to the township before they had any paths which might be dignified by the name of roads. One exception to this statement must be made in the case of the road which ran through the township connecting Dayton and Springfield. From early days the road between these two cities led through Bath township, and today this is one of the fine roads of the county, the road being what is known as an inter-county highway. The '50s saw the first railroad through the township, the Mad River line, and this made a great change in the growth of the township. The township now has two steam roads and one electric line running through the Mad river valley, all three lines passing through the village of Osborn, and the electric line through Fairfield. However, it now appears that both steam roads will be changed and run east of Fairfield about half a mile east of the town.

#### TYLERSVILLE, NOW KNOWN AS BYRON.

On May 19, 1841, in the days of John Tyler, William Sensiman had recorded a town bearing the name of Tylersville, located in Bath township, on the northwest quarter of section 12. The plot contained 7.38 acres divided into twenty-five lots, 50 by 194½ feet, the lots being stretched in a row along the north side of the road running between Yellow Springs and Dayton.

There has been a store of some kind at Byron since the beginning of its existence, but it is practically impossible to trace its shifting ownership. One of the best remembered of the old-time store-keepers—the title of all the merchants of the place—was the late Mitchell J. Ennis, who began business here in May, 1861, and continued to deal in postage stamps, sugar, calico and other commodities from that time until his death in 1887. As near as can be determined Ennis first became identified with Byron shortly after the place was platted in 1841; it may have even been during the course of that year. He had learned the saddlery trade as a youth and in the fore part of the '40s located his shop at Byron, then called Tylersville, and for

eight years made harness and did all kinds of leather work for the community. He then began clerking in the one store of the place, the store being owned by the firm of Shaner & Wilson, who were probably the first merchants in the place, and the next decade found Ennis clerking in the village store. It passed from the hands of Shaner & Wilson to Folkerth & Son, and from the latter to Wolf & Son. It appears that Ennis bought out Wolf & Son in May, 1861; at least, he secured the store in that year and from that time until his death on September 11, 1887, he combined the duties of postmaster with his mercantile business. He had been born in Sugarcreek township on April 30, 1818, and was therefore sixty-eight years of age at the time of his death. He never married. He was a Mason and Oddfellow and had held all the chairs in both lodges. For nearly half a century he was a prominent figure in the life of his community.

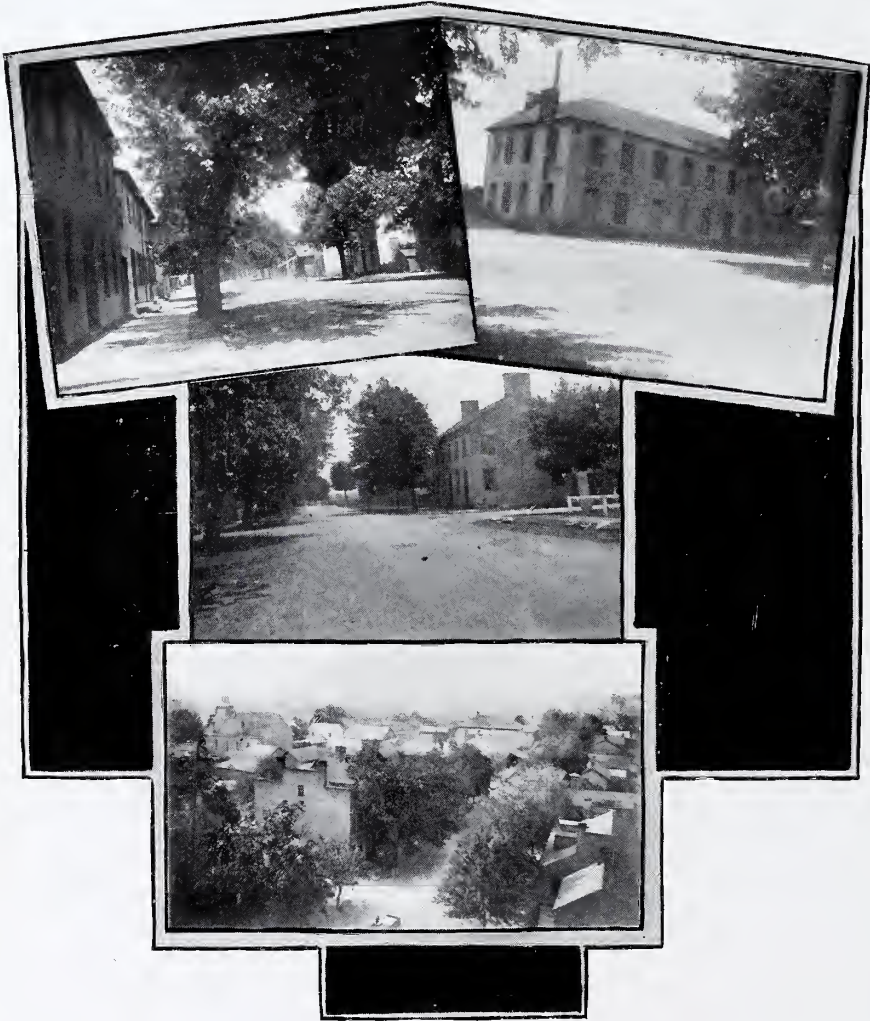
It is probable that the first blacksmith at Byron was Jacob Griner, and it seems certain that he was located there several years before the town was platted. William Wilson entered his shop as an apprentice and after three years in the shop, spent one year traveling as a journeyman blacksmith, after which he returned to Byron and bought the shop and tools of Griner. For eighteen years he kept the shop, selling it in order to locate on a farm which he had bought. He farmed for a number of years and in 1872 he removed to Fairfield, where he died on December 4, 1881. Griner died at Dayton on January 11, 1882, and is buried at Fairfield. Guy Lindamood has been located at the village for a number of years with a blacksmith shop. Julius Wilson is the proprietor of the only store in the place, having succeeded Charles Watt, who had been there several years. There are now about twenty-five persons living in the little hamlet.

#### MIAMI CONSERVANCY DISTRICT OF BATH TOWNSHIP.

The latter part of March, 1913, witnessed the most devastating flood in the valley of the Great Miami river basin within its history. While this flood caused comparatively little damage in Greene county, yet as a result of this flood a comprehensive scheme to prevent the recurrence of such a disaster has been planned which, when completed, will include a part of the county. Therefore, in this present history of Greene county it is necessary to discuss this scheme in so far as it relates to the county.

A brief account of the flood is apropos. The rainfall began on March 23, 1913, and continued until March 25, during which time there was an average precipitation of 8.8 inches over the basin of the Great Miami river. The net result of this unprecedented rainfall was an enormous loss of life, property and land values. It is known that three hundred and sixty-one people lost their lives, and there are others who were never accounted for.





Dayton Street.

"The Ohio Exchange," a Landmark of  
Old Stage-coach Days.

Street Scene.

Looking North from M. E. Church Tower.

VIEWS IN FAIRFIELD.

U. S. AVIATION FIELD, FAIRFIELD, OHIO, IN JUNE, 1917.





There were also thirty-two commitments to the insane hospital, each case being specifically attributed to the horrors attendant on the flood. The property loss has been estimated at \$67,383,574, an amount which does not include the depreciation of land and property values because of subsequent conditions arising from the flood. Of this staggering amount the loss at Dayton alone is set forth at \$47,254,200 and that of Hamilton and Butler county at \$9,568,224. The Big Four Railroad estimated its loss at \$1,250,000; the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton at \$1,000,000; the Erie Railroad at \$25,000; various electric lines at \$2,000,000.

Before the flood had fairly subsided plans were begun to make a study of the Great Miami basin with a view to preventing the recurrence of such a catastrophe in the future. It is not necessary in this connection to enter into a discussion of all the schemes proposed; but for the purpose at hand, it may be stated that it was finally decided to build a number of so-called retarding basins—five in number—which were to act in the nature of reservoirs, and in that way place such a check on the flow of water as to prevent devastating floods.

In order to get the situation into a tangible shape so as to proceed, the General Assembly of the state passed an act on February 6, 1914, cited as "Conservancy Act of Ohio," and under this act all the work has been planned and will be carried through to completion. The cost of the undertaking has been estimated from ten to twenty millions, the cost to fall upon the benefited property owners.

#### THE HUFFMAN RETARDING BASIN.

The basin of the Great Miami river includes only one entire county—Miami—but it includes practically all of Montgomery, Preble, Butler, Darke, Shelby, Logan, Champaign and Clark, with portions of Hamilton, Warren, Mercer, Auglaize, Hardin and Greene. All of Greene county in the basin lies in Bath township, in the extreme northwestern corner of the county. As has been stated, the plan as now outlined provided for five retarding basins: Lockington, in Shelby county; Englewood and Taylorsville, largely in Miami county, but reaching down into Montgomery county; Huffman in Greene county, backing up slightly into Clark county, and lastly, the Germantown retarding basin in Preble and Montgomery counties. Of these basins, the Taylorsville is the largest (1,133 square miles) and the Huffman next in size (671 square miles)

This discussion is concerned only with the Huffman retarding basin, taking its name from Huffman's mill on Mad river in Bath township. The scheme contemplates the taking over of approximately 7,324 acres of land

in the township, the condemned tract including the town of Osborn. The head of the retarding basin will be covered by a dam 3,340 feet long, the top of which will be at an elevation of 850 feet. The dam will occupy parts of the southwest and northwest quarter of sections 7 and 8. At an elevation of 785 feet, which is the average surface elevation of the valley at the point where the dam is to be built, the dam will be 380 feet thick.

The construction of the dam will require the relocation of the Springfield pike, the Ohio electric railway, and the Big Four railroad on the south side of the valley, and of the Valley pike and the Erie railroad on the north side. The concrete spillway weir will be located on solid rock near the Mad river channel on the south side of the valley. Through the base of this structure will pass the three equal horseshoe-shaped outlet conduits. The entrances to these conduits will be rounded so as to facilitate the flow of water as much as possible; and the conduits will empty through carefully tapered channels into a single combined passageway leading back to the river bed.

#### FATE OF TWO VILLAGES AT STAKE.

The question naturally arises here—what is to become of the two towns of Fairfield and Osborn in Bath township? It is not yet definitely decided, but it seems certain that the town of Fairfield will be practically unaffected. It lies at the extreme eastern edge of the basin in section 27, and, as originally planned, could have had perfect protection by the construction of a levee on the west side of the town. However, the residents and property holders, rather than have to bear the expense of the levee, agreed to accept such damages as might fall on them in case they were invaded by a flood. It now seems that the town will not be protected by a levee.

The case of Osborn is quite different. The town lies about three miles northeast of the dam, a distance which under ordinary floods renders it practically immune from danger. However, in case of a flood of extreme height the water may back up into the town to varying depths, but not to exceed nine feet. For this reason it appears that the town will be doomed and have to be condemned.

At the present time it is impossible to estimate with any degree of accuracy the amount of money it will take to pay for the condemned land in Bath township. The nearest estimate that has been made by the conservancy board of the value of land in the township which it will be necessary to purchase—and exclusive of the town of Osborn—is \$1,500,000. It will cost practically the same amount to purchase the town. It means a complete change in the northwest corner of Bath township, a change that only future developments will be able to realize.



## FAIRFIELD.

The village of Fairfield is the third oldest village in the county according to the plat records on file in the recorder's office, its plat bearing the date of March 12, 1816. The proprietors of the town were Joseph Tatman, Samuel Casad and William Casad, the latter two being brothers, and all three men among the earliest settlers in the township. The village was laid out on the main road between Springfield and Dayton, this being the determining factor in its location. The town is one of the few in the county that was originally laid out "square with the world," its streets being laid out due north and south and east and west. There were one hundred and fifty-one lots in the original plat and it has never been necessary to make any additions to the town to take care of the increased population. It never had a chance to be anything more than a mere hamlet after the Mad River railroad went through the township and missed it by a mile. The subsequent establishment of the town of Osborn on the railroad, a mile from Fairfield, completely dashed whatever hopes the people of Fairfield may have entertained as to the future of their village.

But time brings great changes. It is an ill wind that brings no good to someone or something. While it is yet too early to tell what is going to happen, there is now every indication that the March flood of 1913 is going to mean a new Fairfield. The building of the great Huffman retarding basin is going to bring about a change in the location of the tracks of the two railroads through the township, the obliteration of the town of Osborn—and, as it appears at this writing, the rejuvenation of the town of Fairfield. As now planned the two steam roads will be relocated so as to pass east of Fairfield, the electric line already going through the village, and the town will soon be as thriving a place of business as its unfortunate sister town. The town is enjoying a boom (spring of 1918), more lots are being sold, more civic energy is now manifest than at any time since the first railroad ran through the township on New Year's Day, 1850. The next history of the county will undoubtedly have an interesting story to tell of the rebirth of Fairfield, but the present historian can only give a hint as to what this story may be.

Little is known of the early history of the town of Fairfield. The hundred years which have elapsed since the village was first laid out have seen a succession of business enterprises come and go; a succession of physicians; a succession of artisans of all kinds; a succession of citizens who have been glad to call it their home. Its history has not been unlike that of a thousand other towns of the same size scattered over the great Middle West of our country. It has had its ups and downs, its lean years, and its fat years, but through the century of its existence it has quietly gone on its

way, never pretending to be anything more than a village, never assuming any metropolitan airs. It has had its schools and its churches and these have faithfully performed their respective functions to the end that education and religion might be diffused among its people. And thus has it lived for a century.

#### SOME EARLY HISTORY OF FAIRFIELD.

All of the early history of Fairfield which is here presented was prepared by Mrs. A. L. Shuey for a special edition of the *Osborn Local*, July 4, 1895, and the historian is glad to give her credit for preserving much valuable data which would otherwise have been lost forever.

The first dry-goods and grocery store was opened by Daniel Shoup in 1832. The first school house made its appearance in 1829; the first flour-mill was erected and operated by a man of the name of Crawford, the millwright being Madison Dryden; the first blacksmiths were William Hinkle and Reuben Casad. The first hotel was opened by Elisha Searls, the date not known, although it is certain that Stephen Reader had a hotel here as early as 1831. In fact, it is stated that there were three hotels in operation in the '30s. Another of the proprietors was Adam Compton.

Jesse Ragan was an early wagon-maker, his shop being in a large double log house. Conrad Curtis was a cabinet-maker and funeral director, and had the first turning-lathe in the town. Joseph Light was a grocer of the '30s and '40s, later adding a tin-shop to his grocery. Peter Keplinger succeeded him in the business. Other business men of the ante-bellum days included the following: Joseph Deveres and Charles Cummins, tanners; John Louk, Abraham Brake, Henry R. Musser and a man of the name of Holloway, butchers; Joseph Cohen, Louis McCarty and J. D. Bacon, tailors; Robert Wilkinson, Filbert Bacon and one Wiferd, shoemakers; Jonathan Coalston, Joseph Coalston, John Griner and William Snediker, carpenters; Elias Cord and Arthur Coffield, coopers; John and Peter Stull, plasterers; ——— Ginger, gunsmith; ——— Selma, stonecutter; Joseph Kneisley, blacksmith.

Dr. Randolph R. Greene and Doctor Rush constructed a brick building in 1834 for their offices, the same building being in later years used by Peter Lang as a meat market. For many years the Methodists had the only church in the town, one of the early pastors being James Finley. The first person interred in the village cemetery was a Mrs. Hare, the second, John Peck, the latter's interment taking place in 1849. The year 1834 saw William Low as justice of the peace and William K. Sturge as constable.

In the latter part of the '70s the town boasted of one dry goods store, one drug store, two groceries, and a so-called notion store. It also had at this time two wagonshops, two blacksmith shops and one grist-mill. Three

physicians were then trying to keep the people in sufficiently good health to provide a living for themselves, and the one lawyer hoped to keep them out of all legal entanglements. Their religious life was ministered unto by three churches, Methodist Episcopal, Baptist and Reformed. A school building of three rooms sufficed to take care of all the children of the town and immediate community.

#### PRESENT CONDITIONS IN FAIRFIELD.

The village of Fairfield now has a population of about three hundred and fifty, with one hundred and five dwelling houses. It is now smaller than it was prior to the Civil War, its population, as nearly as the oldest citizens can recall, really having reached its maximum in the '50s, at which time it had about five hundred people. There seems to be no doubt that the building of the great Huffman retarding basin will mean a very considerable addition to the population, but it is impossible in the spring of 1918 to estimate how much this will mean to the town. Lots are now selling for varying prices up to five hundred dollars and this would seem to indicate that some people have the idea that the town is going to witness a heavy addition to its population.

The interurban line, connecting Dayton and Springfield, has been in operation through the village of Fairfield since February 2, 1900. From forty to fifty men in the spring of 1918 were living in the town and making the daily trip back and forth to Dayton where they found employment, this being made possible because of the electric line. As now planned the two steam roads running through Osborn will be relaid about half a mile east of Fairfield, and this will mean that the town will expand in that direction.

The town has had two notable fires in its history. The first one was in 1868, when the buildings on Dayton street from the southwest corner of Dayton and Xenia streets were burned. The other fire occurred on March 26, 1908, between nine and ten o'clock in the morning, when the opera house burned to the ground. This building had formerly been the Baptist church, but after its congregation had dwindled away, it was converted into an opera house. Another fire of small dimensions, but with the only death that has ever resulted from a fire in the town, was the one which destroyed the town hall in the latter part of the '70s. There was a prisoner in the lock-up by the name of Greene, and it was always supposed that he set fire to the building. He was burned with the building. The present little frame structure used as the town hall was built immediately after the fire. The town hall now contains the mayor's office and a lock-up, the latter having a substantial iron cage in it.

In the "good old days" the town had its share of saloons, there being three at one time. The last saloon, operated by one William H. Parsons, disappeared in the latter part of the '90s. The next to the last vender of intoxicating liquors was Leo Weldy, who betook himself and his stock of goods to Dayton. The town has now been without a licensed saloon for more than twenty years.

#### MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

From the best evidence it appears that the village was first incorporated in the spring of 1834. At least, the first code of ordinances for its government bears the date of May 6, 1834. The first mayor was Robert Mercer. The mayors of the town since 1834 have served in the following order, Robert Mercer, 1834; M. B. Hill, 1835; Robert Mercer, 1837; S. E. Bennett, 1842; Charles Cummins, 1852; Robert Mercer, 1858; G. R. T. Clark, 1860; William Smith, 1867; John Harrison, 1870; William Greene, 1874; Dr. E. Myers, 1879; N. T. Guthridge, 1880; A. L. Shuey, 1886; C. R. Titlow, 1902; Zebulon T. Hebble, 1908; Otto A. Wilson, 1912.

The complete list of town officials in 1918 follows: O. A. Wilson, mayor; C. F. Snediker, clerk; George H. Stiles, treasurer; John Esterline, marshal; John Esterline, assessor; A. W. Koogler, O. A. Wilson, Frank Graham, Charles F. Downey, H. A. Cosler and R. O. Routzong, councilmen.

#### WRIGHT AVIATION FIELD.

The war department located one of its several aviation fields adjoining the village of Fairfield in the summer of 1917 and this has resulted in more people visiting the town during the past year than in all the previous years of its history. The field, known as the Wilbur Wright Aviation Field, contains about twenty-five hundred acres and is one of the best-equipped fields which the war department has provided for the training of aviators. There are accommodations for several thousand men, and in the summer of 1918 the field was filled to its fullest capacity. The first soldiers arrived at the camp on June 2, 1917, and there have been some men there ever since, although during the winter of 1917-18 most of them were taken to southern camps.

#### FAIRFIELD BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY IN 1918.

Automobile dealer, William Evans; blacksmith, D. E. Knisley, Edwin Knisley; carpenters and contractors, Snediker Brothers; cement workers, Sower Brothers; churches, Methodist Episcopal, Reformed; garage, Adam Longstretch; general store, Frank Herr; grist mill, Orville Armstrong; grocery, Wesley Koogler, William L. Douglass, R. O. Routzong; hotel, C.

L. Hoagland; ice-cream parlor, William L. Douglass; justice of the peace, A. L. Shuey; mayor, O. A. Wilson; meat market, Wesley Koogler; notary, A. L. Shuey, O. A. Wilson; painters and decorators, Wilson & Bressler; physician, H. A. Cosler; postmaster, W. L. Douglass; restaurant, Hufford Hagenbuck, F. O. Wingart, Harry Kline; shoe cobbler, John Beaver; saw-mill, Downey Brothers.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### MIAMI TOWNSHIP.

Miami township was organized out of parts of Xenia and Bath townships pursuant to an order of the commissioners, dated June 8, 1808. The original boundary of the township as defined by the commissioners was as follows:

Ordered by the commissioners that a new Township be laid off in the county of Greene. Beginning at the northeast corner of Section, No. 6, in Town 3, 8th Range; then south to the northeast corner of section of No. 5 in the 3rd Township 7th Range thence due East to the East boundary of Greene county to be called and known by the name of Miami township. And that the first meeting of Electors in said township for the purpose of holding Township Election be in the house of David S. Brodrick at the Yellow Springs on the last Saturday in June, inst.

Isaiah Grover was ordered to survey the south boundary of the new township from where it crossed the Little Miami river to the eastern boundary of the county.

This description is very difficult to follow, and particularly because so much of the township was in what is now Clark county. There was no Clark county until March 1, 1818, and consequently all of the northern townships of Greene county included parts of what became Clark county in that year. The northwest corner of the Miami township of 1808 adjoined Champaign county and was in the present Mad River township of Clark county, two miles north of the northeast corner of Bath township as now constituted. From this corner of Miami township its west line extended south seven miles to the south line of Bath township; thence east to the present east line of Greene county; thence north to the Champaign county line; thence west to the place of beginning.

The township lost a considerable stretch of its territory when Ross was organized on March 4, 1811. When Clark county was set off on March 1, 1818, Miami township was reduced to practically its present limits. It took a second act of the General Assembly to straighten out the Greene-Clark line. It appears that Gen. Benjamin Whiteman, then a resident of Clifton, had been thrown into the newly organized Clark county and he objected. He raised such an objection and was possessed of so much influence that he had a bill introduced into the General Assembly for the express purpose of legislating him back into Greene county. The act of January 25, 1819, so changed the Greene-Clark line that Whiteman was left in Greene county.

A complete explanation of this northern boundary line is given in the chapter on County Organization.

But this was not the end of the troubles that the county commissioners had in getting the limits of Miami township fixed as they are today. The records show that no fewer than three times in after years, efforts were made to rectify the line between Miami and Ross townships. These three efforts were in 1828, 1832 and 1843. Let the commissioners' records tell the story:

Ordered by the Commissioners that Moses Collier, Esq., do proceed on or before the 14th inst. to Survey and mark the line between Miami and Ross Townships. Beginning at the North East corner of Xenia Township and running north until it strikes the Clark County line. June 5, 1828.

Ordered that the line between Miami & Ross Townships be changed and established in the manner following: To start at the present corner of said Townships being an elm in the line of Xenia Township, running northwesterly with the said Xenia Township line 145 poles so as to include the new road leading to South Charleston; thence a due North course until it strikes the line of Clark County. March 7, 1832.

Samuel Kyle was appointed by the commissioners at their June session, 1843, to survey and make a plot of a line of partition between Ross and Miami townships on a petition presented to the commissioners to attach a part of Ross to Miami township. On August 11, 1843, Kyle made the following report:

Pursuant to an order from the Honorable Board of Commissioners of Greene County, bearing date of their term of June, 1843, requiring the survey and the plot of the line of partition between Ross and Miami Townships. To begin at the new corner of Miami Township in Xenia Township, North line Running Eastwardly with said line to the original corner of Miami in the Ross [township] line; thence South with [the] Xenia and Ross [township] line to the south line of Wright's survey; thence Eastwardly with the line of said survey and the North line of William Thorn's [survey], North to the Clark County line; thence with the county line West to the Miami and Ross corner in said county line; thence with the line of said townships to the Beginning. The undersigned proceeded to survey the same, Beginning at a stake, white oak, hickory and black oak, southeast corner of Miami Township and running thence S. 89 [degrees] E. 145 poles crossing Massies creek at 120 poles to a burr oak, elm and jack oak [at] corner to Xenia Township; thence S. 1 [degree] W. 394 poles to the two hickories and elm in Xenia Township line; thence with the southerly line of Wright's survey N. 56 [degrees] E. 802 poles to [Wright's and William Thorn's corner] three Burr oaks; thence N. 392 poles crossing Massies creek at 293 poles to a stake in the line of Clark County; thence West 12 poles to a stake; thence North 175 poles to a stake; thence N. 86½ [degrees] W. 794 poles to a stake new corner to Miami Township; thence South 673 poles to the Beginning. Containing 3,939 acres or 6 15/100 square miles. All of which is respectfully submitted. August 11th, 1843. SAMUEL KYLE, S. G. C.

#### VIRGINIA MILITARY LANDS.

Miami township as originally constituted had considerable military land within its limits, but since it has been reduced to its present size it has lost most of it. All that part of the township east and south of the Little Miami

river falls within the Virginia Military Survey. This leaves about twenty-four sections of Congress land in the township. There are only seven military surveys wholly or in part in the township. The proprietors of these surveys, their number and acreage are set forth in the following table:

<i>Proprietor.</i>	<i>Survey No.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Samuel Finley -----	435	2,200
Francis Whiting -----	438	1,000
James Galt -----	610	600
Robert Randolph -----	611	1,000
James Fowler -----	4730	50
Samuel Oldham -----	1185	1,000
James Galloway, Jr. -----	7320	250

#### TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES.

Miami township is all within the basin of the Little Miami river, the river flowing across the township from northeast to southwest, a little south of the middle of the township. The surface is just rolling enough to admit of easy natural drainage. Yellow Springs creek, which runs through the town of the same name, is a stream of considerable size and one of the most picturesque water courses in the county. The valuable out-cropping of stone has made the stone industry of Miami township one of its most profitable industries for the past half century and more.

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

The Miami township of 1808 included a wide stretch of territory and it must be remembered that it took in a goodly strip off of the present Clark county. The lister's report on the township for 1808 gives the following taxpayers for that year, the first year of the existence of the township: John Adams, John Ambler, John Anderson, William Anderson, William Andrew, William Alban, Thomas Barnes, William Berry, John Berry, Thomas Barton, John Blue, David S. Broderick, Owen Batman, James Beck, Widow Bradfute, Widow Curry, Elizabeth Currie, William Cottren, Cornelius Collins, John Calloway, Widow Dewitt, Owen Davis, Rachel Duffy, Robert Davis, Ephraim Enlow, William Edge, Thomas Freeman, Arthur Forbes, William Freal, Daniel Foley, Michael Folm, John Garlough, David Garrison, John Gowdy, Mathew Gibson, Widow Goldsby, Sarah Goldsby, John Goldsby, George Goldsby, Edward Goldsby, John Graham, David Hopping, Ezekiel Hopping, Samuel Hulie, David Humphreyville, Christopher Hulinger, Joseph Huston, Jacob Hubble, William Johnson, John Knox, Elisha Leslie, Justice Luse, Christopher Lightfoot, George Logan, Daniel Mann, Maurice Miller, Benjamin Miller, Jacob Miller, John Morland, Sr., John Morland, Jr., Will-



iam Morland, William M. Martin, James Martin, Robert Mitchell, Andrew Moodie, William Miars, John McClelland, Alexander McCullough, Moses Napp, William Passel, Michael Peterson, Alexander Russell, Conrad Richards, Abraham Runion, John Riley, John Ray, John Rosegrants, John Stewart, Samuel Stewart, James Stewart, Abraham Stout, Isaac Stout, Sebastian Shrouf, Christopher Shrouf, Evan Stevens, Francis Sipe, Henry Taylor, George Taylor, Cornelius Vandevanter, David Vance, John Vance, John Walker, Robert Walburn, James Willetts, Ebenezer Wheeler and John Williams. The lister was James Stewart.

In the above list are scheduled ninety-six taxpayers, eight of whom are women. How many of these ninety-six lived in the township as it now exists will never be known. But the list does contain all that actually did live in the township who were taxpayers. How many were there who paid no taxes is another point which is impossible to determine, but there must have been a few of this class. They were merely squatters and most of them soon moved on to other places.

#### THE COMING OF LEWIS DAVIS.

The absence of any written records of the early lives of the pioneers of Miami township renders it difficult to set forth at this late day much definite information regarding the sturdy men and women who braved the wilderness of the township in the fore part of the last century. The name of the first settler is a matter of dispute. Some asseverate that it was a man of the name of Lewis Davis; others are equally certain that it was a German of the name of Sebastian Shroufe. It seems, however, that the honor falls to Davis.

Lewis Davis lies today beneath a large boulder along the state road six miles west of Bellefontaine, Logan county, Ohio, and his story is buried with him. From scattering sources of information it is possible to make out a traditional record of his career so far as Greene county is concerned. It appears that Davis was living on the present site of Dayton about 1800, and that there he met an Indian maid who, for some reason, struck up an acquaintance with him, or it may have been vice versa; at least, so the story goes, this daughter of the forest informed Davis that there was a wonderful country around the vicinity of the present Yellow Springs, that there was a spring there which was well worthy of a visit. Davis is not said to have married the girl, although it would have added a flavor to the story if he had, but he did go to see the country described by her, and was so favorably impressed with it that he went to Cincinnati and entered the tract now comprising the village of Yellow Springs. This much is certain, whether it was the result of his interview with the Indian maid or not.

Lewis Davis was the only son of Owen Davis, the first miller in Beaver-creek township and later the first one in Miami township. More data concerning him has been found in the history of Jefferson county, Indiana, than in any of the records of Greene county. It seems that he went with John Paul from Xenia to Jeffersonville, Indiana, when the latter went there to enter land on which he laid out the town of Madison, Indiana. Davis evidently had some money with him; at least, he entered into partnership with Paul in the purchase of the site of Madison. This was in 1809. Three or four years later he is said to have been back in Xenia, but he soon settled in Cincinnati. On October 8, 1813, about the time he left Madison, he disposed of one-half of his interest in his Madison property to Jacob Burnett, of Cincinnati. Then on November 24, 1817, he sold his remaining property in Madison to Lewis Whiteman. This deed of 1817 shows that Davis was living in Cincinnati at the time. His career from 1817 until his death is shrouded in mystery, but he seemed to have gone from Cincinnati to Logan county when the county was organized in 1818 and lived there until his death.

Davis seemed to have been a man of some ability; leastwise, he is credited with doing considerable surveying in his community, and becoming a man of some importance in various ways. But, so the story of his life goes, he preferred corn in the liquid form to the product in the shape of meal, the result being that he lost what he had, and eventually left the county and became a resident of Logan county. The only further definite information concerning this first settler of the township is furnished by an account written by someone in the '80s who accidentally found his grave in Logan county. Thus is it described by this unknown writer: "On the left hand side of State road, six miles west of Bellefontaine, in an open forest, is a sandy knoll, surrounded by a rail enclosure, and covered by an oval shaped boulder, perhaps six feet in diameter; beneath this stone reposes all that remains of Lewis Davis, unhonored, unwept and unknown. For years he had lived the life of a pauper, and when he saw the grim vision of death approaching, he expressed a desire that this spot be his last resting place." And, as far as known, he still rests there.

#### TALES OF OTHERS OF THE PIONEERS.

Sebastian Shroufe, the other settler credited by some as being the first in the township, was a native of Germany. He came here with his wife and large family of children at an early day. He is listed as a taxpayer in 1808, but there is nothing to indicate that he was the first settler to make his permanent home here. It is said that he was a "squatter" at first, later purchasing a tract in the township, but it is certain that he eventually became a prosperous citizen.

Owen Davis, the father-in-law of Gen. Benjamin Whiteman, and the owner of the house in Beavercreek township where the first county court was held on May 10, 1803, was one of the early settlers of Miami township. He operated the first mill at Clifton; he is listed as one of the township's taxpayers in 1808. Davis died February 18, 1818. General Whiteman died on his farm near Clifton on July 1, 1852, at the age of eighty-four.

David Garrison arrived in the township about 1808 and was one of the prominent settlers. He started a record in the year of his arrival in the township in which he noted his business transactions. From this record it has been ascertained that the following men were among the most prominent here in that year: Justus Luce, who lived near Clifton and bought live stock; Joel Van Meter, the first elder of the Presbyterian church at Clifton; Owen Davis, the owner and operator of the Clifton Mills; General Whiteman, who moved from Beavercreek township to Miami in 1805 and lived there until his death; David Brodrick, Evan Stevens, James Miller and Sebastian Shroufe.

On the road between Yellow Springs and Clifton there lived in an early day two men of the name of James Miller, but so far as known of no relation. In order to distinguish between the two, their friends dubbed one of them "Congress" Miller and the other "Stand-by" Miller. The first named had a perennial desire to go to Congress—a desire which, by the way, was never gratified; the other was a sober and steady sort of a citizen with no political aspirations, and hence was well named "Stand-by" Miller. He would probably have been called "Stand-pat" Miller if he had been living in the present generation. One of these Millers, presumably "Congress," was appointed postmaster of Yellow Springs on October 1, 1810.

John Graham, a native of Virginia, later a resident of Kentucky, where he married a girl from Pennsylvania, came to Ohio and located in Miami township of Greene county sometime in 1802 or 1803. Their daughter, Anna, born in 1804, was one of the first girls born in the township. She lived to be probably the oldest native-born resident of the township, her death occurring in the latter part of the '80s. She married Daniel Pennell. John Graham settled with his family on the Xenia road about two miles south of Yellow Springs and lived there until his death. His widow later moved to Illinois, where she made her home with her youngest son until her death.

The Johnson family were here before 1808, William Johnson being one of the taxpayers of 1808. The first Johnson concerning whom definite information is obtainable was James, a native of Kentucky, who came to the township in 1815 with his wife, seven sons and four daughters. He first located on an eighty-acre tract near Clifton, and subsequently bought eighty acres more across the line in Clark county. He paid six dollars an acre for

this second tract, ten acres of it being cleared. Johnson became a large land-owner before his death, and his descendants have been large owners.

Another family of the '20s was that of James Anderson, a native of Dundee, Scotland. He brought his wife, three sons and two daughters across to this country in 1820. Landing at Quebec, Canada, they came to Greene county via Buffalo and Sandusky, arriving in Miami township in the spring of 1821. They settled near Grinnell's mills on the Little Miami, but in 1826 removed to Clark county, where he purchased one hundred acres for one dollar an acre. The descendants of the family still live in Clark county.

#### EARLY CENTERS OF ACTIVITY.

The towns of Yellow Springs and Clifton were early centers of activity in Miami township and many of the early settlers were residents of one or the other of the two places. Thomas Fream is credited with being appointed the first postmaster of Yellow Springs on April 1, 1805. He held the office until October 1, 1810, when James Miller succeeded him. The name of Fream does not appear on the tax duplicate of 1808, but there was a Thomas Freeman. It is not even claimed that there was a single dwelling house in Yellow Springs until 1809, Elisha Mills erecting the first log cabin on the site of the future town in that year. Even as late as 1845 there were fewer than half a dozen houses in Yellow Springs; in fact, the Methodist church, and two or three cabins constituted the whole of the village when the railroad invaded its quiet precincts. The history of the town proper begins with its platting in 1853. The village of Clifton was laid out in 1833 for Timothy Bates and Bennett, proprietors, and for twenty years of its existence was much more of a place than Yellow Springs.

#### A COMMUNIST SETTLEMENT.

There are few people in Greene county who are aware of the fact that there was at one time an attempt by a number of persons to establish a communistic settlement in Miami township. The facts concerning this strange settlement are obscure and the most searching record of their life in the county has failed to reveal much definite information concerning them. The newspapers seemed to have ignored their presence, or at least no contemporary reference to their existence here has been found.

They were an offshoot of the New Harmony settlement in southwestern Indiana which was in existence from 1823 to 1828, when they disposed of their holdings in that state and removed to Pennsylvania and other states. Some of them located in Greene county, but it is not known at just what time they came here. The Indiana settlement was established by a Scotchman, Robert Owen, and his followers are often referred to as Owenites, a name which seemed to have been applied to those living in Greene county.

The facts which have been preserved about them as far as this county is concerned are substantially as follows: They located in Miami township some time in the '30s and erected a large building which was held in common. Their profits from their labors were divided equally among the members, and no man was considered as being of more importance in the community than another. Their house was a log structure which stood in the ravine near the cliffs. Each family had one room to itself, the rooms being separated from each other by logs, while there was a large dining room where all gathered for their meals. As they believed in marriage the little colony grew in numbers, and it became necessary to add other rooms to the original structure. The main structure eventually became a building one hundred feet long, but only twenty feet wide, and here they lived as long as they maintained their queer communal method of living.

The colony was not, however, destined to have a very long career in the county. Soon there arose self-appointed leaders and this led to such serious disagreements that dissensions arose which brought about the dissolution of the settlement. The property held in common was the primary cause of the abrupt ending of the colony. Some wanted it divided among the members, and the result was that the local courts took a hand in the difficulty and the society was soon disbanded. Most of the original members left the county, but a few of them remained to become useful citizens of the township. Thus passed out of existence the most peculiar settlement the county has ever known, and today the oldest inhabitants can not recall anything definite about their connection with the life of the county. Their story has been told, and it only remains for the historian to chronicle their brief existence as erstwhile dwellers in the valley of the Little Miami.

#### THE FIRST MURDER IN MIAMI TOWNSHIP.

In November, 1809, William Catrill, a resident of the township, murdered a child, of which he was supposed to be the father. The child belonged to Jane Richards, a sister to Catrill's wife, and the former was indicted with Catrill when the case was tried in Xenia in the spring of 1810. The woman was acquitted, but Catrill was found guilty chiefly upon the testimony of a young girl who testified that the child had been thrown out one cold night in November among the hogs, which the murderer supposed would remove all traces of the crime. Strangely enough it was found the next morning that the body of the child had not been touched. Circumstances pointed toward the guilt of the Richards woman and Catrill and they were at once arrested and brought to trial. After Catrill's conviction, he escaped the extreme penalty by the interposition of the "Sweeping Resolutions," which are to be found in Chase's Statutes of 1809-10.

## TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

There are both steam and electric roads running through Miami township today and good highways to be found everywhere. The first township road was not laid out until March 3, 1822, although there were several so-called roads before that year. Year by year the roads have been gradually improved until at the present time most of those within the township are at least graveled. The main road between Xenia and Springfield passes through the township, the road being known as the Springfield-Xenia inter-county highway.

The present Springfield branch of the Pennsylvania railroad was built as the Little Miami railroad. It was opened through between Xenia and Springfield in the summer of 1846. The electric line between Xenia and Springfield, a distance of twenty miles, was chartered in 1901; the first trolley was put up on January 20, 1902; the first track was laid on April 7, 1902; the first regular cars were run on May 1, 1902; the first regular cars from Yellow Springs to Springfield were run on June 17, 1902; the first regular cars from Yellow Springs to Xenia began running August 17, 1902, and the honor of buying the first ticket from Yellow Springs to Xenia belongs to Edward Carlisle.

## AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS AT PRESENT.

The soil of Miami township is very fertile, since the township is largely in the immediate valley of the Little Miami river and its tributaries. Yet notwithstanding this fact the farmers are using an ever increasing amount of commercial fertilizer each year. In 1916 they used no less than six hundred one thousand one hundred forty pounds of commercial fertilizer, and also turned under ninety-six acres of clover sod. In the same year they put in one hundred eighty-seven rods of drain tile, a fact which shows that they appreciate the value of good drainage.

The agricultural statistics for the year ending March 1, 1917, are the last available at the time this is being written, and all the statistics quoted in succeeding paragraphs are taken from this report. This report is on file in the auditor's office. The grains showed the following yield in bushels: Wheat, 33,145; rye, 517; oats, 7,214; winter barley, 217; spring barley, 416; corn, 110,720; clover seed, 41. Other farm products exhibited the following report: Acres of ensilage, 59; potatoes, 3,712 bushels; onions, 240 bushels; timothy hay, 1,910 tons; clover hay, 412 tons; acres of alfalfa, 167; alfalfa hay, 412 tons; ensilage, 117 tons; apples, 13,940 (largest yield in the county). The whole township reported only twenty silos, while Cedarville township reported sixty-one. There were 9,642 acres under cultivation; 3,009 acres of pasture land; 1,112 acres of woodland; 141 acres of orchards; 416 acres of waste land; total acreage of township, 14,320.

The live-stock industry of the township was indicated as follows: Horses, 733; cattle, 1,745; sheep, 722, with wool clip of 270 pounds; hogs, 2,961 with a loss of 148 by cholera and 29 farms infected with the disease. The dairy products reported with the following figures: Gallons of cream sold, 52,960; home-made butter, 7,116 pounds; gallons of milk sold, 66,452. The hens laid 28,120 dozens of eggs.

The general state of farming is better now than it has ever been before, and farmers are certainly receiving better prices for their products than ever before in the history of the country. Farming is being recognized as a science. The farmer is learning that there is a science in raising corn and hogs just as there is in manufacturing sugar or glass or any other commodity. The farmers are holding what they call institutes, where they hear farm topics discussed by men who have been scientifically trained. All of which makes for a better farmer.

#### A FAMOUS BARN.

The township of Miami boasts of some of the finest scenery in the state of Ohio, and thousands of tourists visit various parts of it each year. The famous springs at Yellow Springs, the cliffs at Clifton and along the Little Miami, the fantastical geological formations to be found here and there along the river, all unite to make the township one of the beauty spots of the state.

An interesting spot along the river is the old Grinnell mill, which has been in operation upwards of a century and is still to be seen in a fine state of preservation. Near this mill, and a little farther up the river, is the finest park in Greene county and one of the fine ones of the state, the celebrated Riverside Park of John Bryan. This park is one of nature's beautiful creations—five hundred acres of mingled woodland and meadow, rivers and streams, springs and cascades, hills and vales.

This farm of Bryan's boasts the largest barn in the entire state. Its exterior dimensions give some idea of its size: Two hundred six feet long, one hundred twenty feet wide, seventy-five feet high. Later Mr. Bryan built an L to the barn which was eighty-five by fifty feet, this addition of itself being larger than the average barn. The first story is constructed of stone, the remainder of the huge structure being of oak and pine. This famous barn stands about a mile and a half southeast of Yellow Springs.

#### A FAMOUS HOUSE.

Probably the most picturesque country house in Greene county is that of E. S. Kelly, known as "Whitehall," which adjoins Yellow Springs on the north. The justly famous building was erected in 1846-47 by Judge

Aaron Harlan and was modeled after the colonial style of architecture. The original building was erected of brick burned in a kiln nearby, while the interior woodwork was put in when oak, walnut and wild-cherry were to be found everywhere in profusion. The location of the house is impressive; standing on a high knoll, in the midst of a grove of walnut trees, it commands a fine view in every direction. The original walnut trees surrounding the building were used for the interior woodwork, but later owners of the building and site planted an extensive grove of the same kind of trees. Since Mr. Kelly has secured the old Harlan home he has made extensive improvements in the house and grounds.

#### ANTIOCH BONE CAVE.

The Bone cave near Yellow Springs was discovered by the late Jesse Taylor on October 19, 1878. The cave is located on the old Neff farm, about a half a mile from the town, and about two hundred yards from the large spring known as Yellow Spring. When found, the entrance was about four feet high, three feet wide and faced the south. The cave extends back into the rock for a total distance of about fourteen feet, but at no place is the ceiling high enough to admit of a person standing up.

Taylor made some investigation of the cave the same week he found it, and because of the several different kinds of bones which he found in it, it has since been known as the Bone cave. He found two human skulls, both the arm and leg bones of small children and several human teeth. He found the bones of opossums, minks, porcupines, woodchuck, rattlesnakes, rabbits, muskrats, beavers, etc. Among these bones were found different implements used by the Indians, among which were bone awls, polished stone hatchets, and several other implements made out of rock or bone. It was never determined whether the cave was used as a burial spot or not, but the remains of animals found in it would seem to indicate that it was not intended as a sepulchre.

#### CLIFTON.

The town of Clifton is the oldest town in Miami township, dating its official beginning from 1833. In the late summer of that year Timothy Bates and Bennet Lewis, the owners of the townsite, had it surveyed into thirty-two lots by Robert Walton, the county surveyor. This plat was recorded on August 24, 1833, the record stating that the townsite was located in fractional section 32, township 5, range 8. The lots were laid out "square with the world," a plan which has not been followed with many of the towns of the county.

The name given to the town is pleasantly suggestive of the rugged



cliffs which are found along the Little Miami river which flows along the south edge of the town. When the town was laid out in 1833 there were already a few settlers on the site, while one of the largest mills in this section of the state was located along the Little Miami at this place. The mill drew settlers for more than a score of miles around, and the store of the two proprietors of the town, Bates & Lewis, did probably as much business in a year as any store in the county.

It was this fact that induced the enterprising Yankees, Bates and Lewis, to decide to plat a town about the mill and their store. In the summer of 1833 they had a conference with a carpenter, A. G. Kiler by name, and induced him to locate in the new village with the prospect of getting plenty of work to do at his trade. The story is told, and it may be true, that he actually built fourteen houses in the summer of 1833, and furthermore it is stated that the houses were occupied as fast as they were completed. In the following year, 1834, Kiler built other buildings.

Thus the infant village jumped from its swaddling clothes into a full-fledged village. It did most of its jumping the first few years, its sudden prosperity being due in large part to its beautiful location on the river, as well as to the belief that the proposed new railroad to run between Springfield and Xenia would pass through its precincts. When the early '40s disclosed the fact that the railroad was to go three miles west of the village it was then seen that it was doomed as a village of any importance. It had to see its younger rival, Yellow Springs, spring into existence and reap the good result which a railroad always brings a town. It was thus never necessary to add very much to the first platting of the town in 1833; in fact, the thirty-two lots which were added in May, 1835, by the two original proprietors seem to have been the last which have been added to the town. This addition was recorded on May 8, 1833, and the description accompanying the plat states that the proprietors were donating a lot fifty by fifty feet to the Methodist church, the lot in question being a part of whole lot No. 40, on the northeast corner of Clay and North streets.

The pioneer merchants, Bates & Lewis, are said to have located in the village as early as 1826. The first commission to a postmaster for the village was issued to Timothy G. Bates. The year the town was laid out, 1833, there was a sudden influx of settlers, although it is difficult to see what would have brought them to the place. William and David Anderson built a business room in 1833, or the year following, and stocked it with such commodities as were then usually found in the rural stores. William Anderson followed Bates as postmaster, and later he removed to Yellow Springs, where he lived to a ripe old age.

The first blacksmith was one Confer, a Virginian, who followed his

trade for several years in the village. Among other residents of the village in its earlier years, or at least, some of those who lived near enough the village to be called a part of it, were John Knox, Gen. Benjamin Whiteman, Baker, Braley, Knott, Porter, Gibson, Stevenson, Luce and Kemp, the latter operating the flour-mill at one time in the '30s.

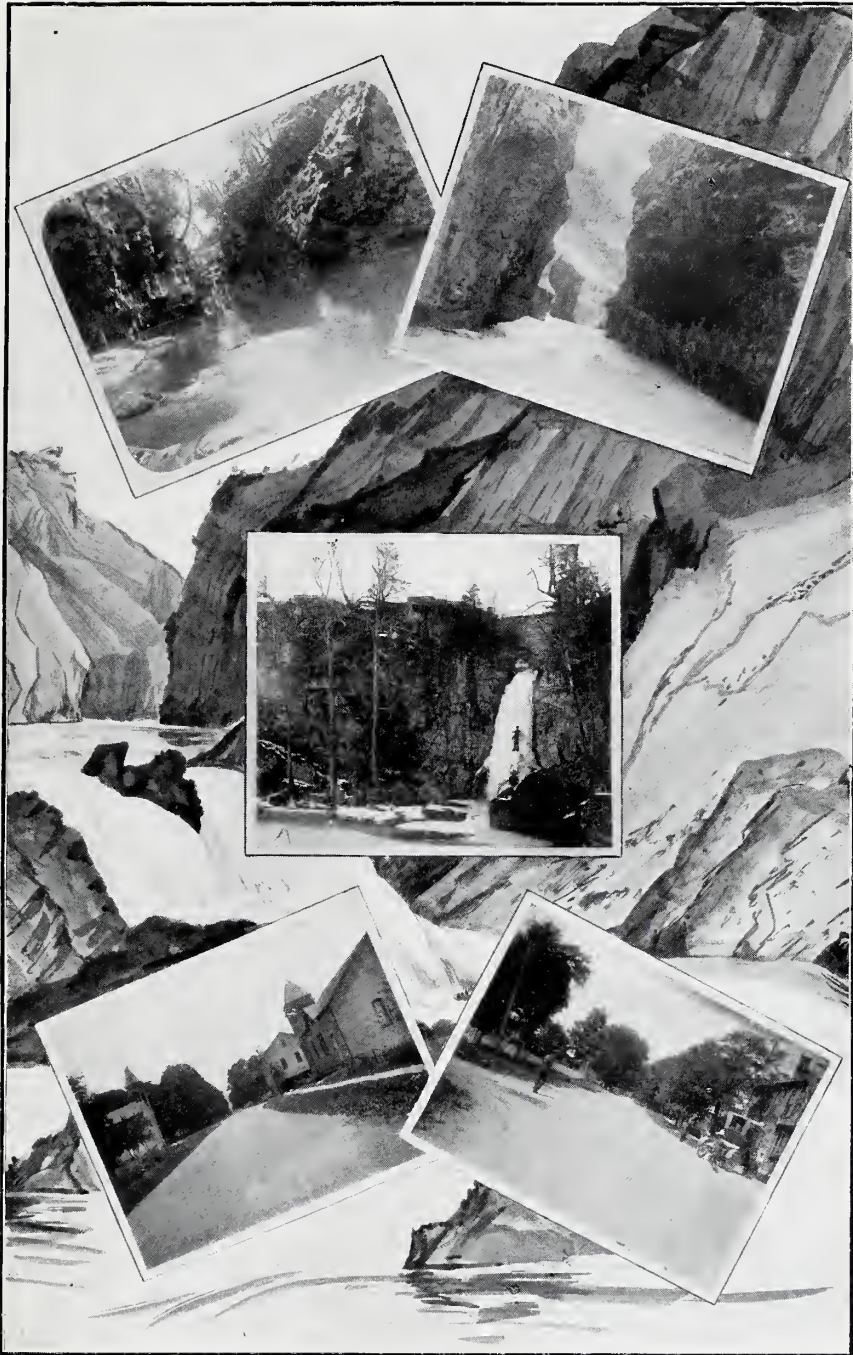
The village was incorporated in 1835, but it was soon seen that it had little use for an incorporation. Many of the most enterprising citizens moved over to Yellow Springs as soon as the railroad went through in the middle of the '40s, and the once promising village was soon only a ghost of its former self.

Three churches have risen along the quiet streets of Clifton: Methodist, Presbyterian and United Presbyterian. Many years ago a town hall was erected, which serves as the home of the officials of the village, the village jail, and a hall on the second floor of good size. Then there is an opera house which would do credit to a town of twice its size—a sizable building capable of seating five hundred people, about twice the entire population of the town at the present time. A two-story brick school house, with four teachers, accommodates the educational needs of the village and surrounding community.

The business and professional interests of the village in 1918 are not very extensive. The flour-mill of Isaac Preston is the only industry of the village. This mill has an interesting history, it being one of the oldest waterpower mills in the state. Preston bought it in 1907 and has since installed an electric light plant in connection with the mill. One of the oldest merchants of the town, A. H. White, retired from business several years ago, selling his store to W. B. Clark. There are now two stores in the town: W. B. Clark has one and Warren D. Printz the other. Printz was appointed postmaster of the town on February 25, 1915. Clark was the postmaster of the town for about twenty years. C. E. Confer has been engaged in the blacksmithing business in the village for a number of years.

#### TOWN OFFICIALS IN 1918.

The officials of the town in 1918 are as follows: Mayor, E. C. Corey; clerk, J. F. Cultice; treasurer, W. B. Clark; marshal, Byrd Hayslett; assessor, C. M. Preston; councilmen—C. M. Preston, Clyde Clark, Charles Hopping, W. D. Printz, C. E. Estle and H. R. Corry.



The Gorge in Summer.

The Gorge in Winter.

North Street.

Arch Bridge and Falls.

Clay Street.

VIEWS OF CLIFFTON.



## CHAPTER XVII.

### ROSS TOWNSHIP.

Ross township was one hundred and seven years old on March 4, 1918. It started off its career as an independent political unit on the same day with Silvercreek township. Ross was a part of Caesarscreek township from May 10, 1803, until the organization of Xenia township on August 20, 1805, and was set off from the latter township on March 4, 1811. Therefore all its settlers from 1803 to 1811, a period of eight years, are to be found listed with the settlers of one or the other of the two previously formed townships.

The order on the commissioners' records for the formation of Ross township was set forth in the following language:

Ordered that Xenia Township be divided in the following manner (Towit) Beginning at the Northwest corner of Silver Creek Township and running thence North to the Miami Township line; the said new Township shall be called and known by the name of Ross Township; that the first meeting of Electors in Ross Township for the purpose of electing Township officers shall be at the house of John Bozorth in said Township.

Its original limits have been changed on three different occasions: First by the addition of a part of Miami township in 1819; secondly, by the loss of a considerable portion at the time of the creation of Cedarville township in 1850; finally, by a small loss of territory in 1853, when New Jasper township came into existence. A study of its original limits show that it was laid out about six miles wide north by south, and seven miles from east to west. Its present perimeter shows straight boundary lines on all except the western side, which is about as irregular as could be imagined. The township is bounded on the north by Clark county, on the east by Madison and Fayette counties, on the south by Silvercreek township, and on the west by New Jasper and Cedarville townships.

The origin of the name given to the township in 1811 has always been more or less obscure. It is certain that it was named Ross in honor of a pioneer of that name who was prominent in the decade prior to the War of 1812, but just who this man Ross was and what became of him are questions which will probably never be answered. The historians of forty years ago were unable to find anything about him, and at that time there were living some of the pioneers who were very early residents of the township. He left no descendants, and, as far as the official records of the

county are concerned, never seemed to have held any office. The names of Robert and James Ross appear in the tax duplicates of 1813, and it was probably one of these who was responsible for the name.

## MILITARY SURVEYS.

All of the land in Ross township lies within the Virginia Military Survey. The official records show that there are thirty-six surveys wholly or in part within the township. Strange to say only eight of these contain in excess of one thousand acres, two of the eight being for an even two thousand acres. Of the remaining surveys, six call for less than a hundred acres. A complete list of these thirty-six surveys, together with the names of the proprietors, and the number of each survey and its acreage, is given in the appended table:

<i>Proprietor</i>	<i>Survey No.</i>	<i>Acres</i>
William Washington -----	516	2,000
Thomas Christie -----	872	556
Jacob Brown -----	880	559
Henry Fauntelroy -----	784	1,000
William Pierce -----	816	810
Pickering and Hodgden -----	1094	800
James Wilson -----	1158	600
John Marshall -----	1432	1,000
George Monroe -----	1446	2,000
Smith Snead -----	2070	560
Thomas Posey -----	3080	1,000
William Taliaferro, heir to Col. William Taliaferro	3176	500
Benjamin Spiller -----	3911	1,220
Thomas Browder -----	4620	294
James Galloway, Jr., and James Fowler -----	4671	1,059
Hughes Woodson -----	5035	250
Samuel Harrod and James Hiller -----	5149	50
Simpson Foster (representatives) -----	5353	250
William Smith (representatives) -----	5993	333
James Galloway, Jr. -----	6007	100
John Campbell -----	6171	50
Reuben McDaniel -----	6172	25
Moses Trader -----	6173	150
James Galloway, Jr. -----	6174	50
James Galloway, Jr. -----	6976	60
Reuben McDaniel -----	8213	100
Alexander Breckinridge -----	9539 and 9540	740

<i>Proprietor</i>	<i>Survey No.</i>	<i>Acres</i>
James Galloway, Jr. -----	10618	300
Joseph Spencer -----	12953	45
James Morton -----	5993	814 1/2
Alexander Balmain -----	1092	1,200
Smith Snead -----	2068	560
John Storey -----	1330	870
John Robbins (representatives) -----	4888	444 2/3
William Tompkins -----	1450	666 2/3

GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES.

Ross township is perhaps the most level of any of the townships of Greene county. With a deep, sandy loam covering practically the entire township it is pre-eminently a farming region. It is drained to the west by two forks of Massies creek, and to the southwest by two branches of Caesars creek, the whole surface of the township falling in the basin of the Little Miami river. Unlike its sister township of Cedarville to the west, it does not have a single outcropping of limestone within its limits, the stone being covered to such a depth that it is far below the surface, and so far below that stone will never be quarried within its precincts. That the township is practically all tillable is shown by the last report of its township assessor, who reported only one hundred ninety-six waste acres out of a total acreage of twenty-one thousand two hundred seventy-eight. This same report gives woodland still in the township to the extent of one thousand forty acres.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first complete list of the settlers of the township which has been found is given in the lister's report of the taxable property in 1813. This report, it must be remembered includes not only those living in the township as it is constituted today, but also most of the settlers living in what is now Cedarville township as well as some of those in the present New Jasper township. The lister was Wilson McDonald, and his list of taxpayers, dated May 26, 1813, is as follows: Daniel Burrows, John Bozarth, Joshua Bozarth, David Brown, John Bergin, Benjamin Bloomer, Margaret Baal, William Burk, Isaac Bice, John Campbell, William Campbell, Benjamin Cutler, John Cullum, Andrew Cronk, Michael Casada, Joel Dolby, Andrew Douglas, Edward Flood, Sr., Jonathan Flood, Edward Flood, Jr., Upton Farmer, Jacob Follis, John Ferguson, William Ferguson, William Frazier, Mary Farmer, William Farmer, Frederick Goodheart, Angeline Gilmore, Abel H. Gibson, John Harrow, Samuel Herrod, Benjamin Harner, Alexander Irvin, Arthur Johnson, David Johnson, Benjamin Johnson, Isaac Johnson, Reuben Johnson, James Junkin, William Junkin, Philip Jackson,

James White, John Watson, Jr., John Watson, Sr., William Wilson, Eliza Young, Aaron Lambert, John Lambert, Chancey Lawrence, John Mercer, William Miller, Wilson McDonald, Reuben McDonald, Robert McFarland, Jacob Paullin, Rebecca Paullin, Alexander Rowen, Robert Ross, James Ross, Isaiah Sutton, James Selby, Boncan Stout, Aaron Saunders, Samuel Sheley, David Sheley, Monos Shock, John Shigley, Michael Spencer, Sr., Michael Spencer, Jr., Francis Spencer, James Stanford, Thomas Stanford, Rev. Moses Trader and Samuel Teel.

It will be noticed that there are a number of women in the list of taxpayers. The names of several of these pioneers have a doubtful spelling, but the spelling from the original record has been followed. Most of these undoubtedly lived in that part of Ross township which was later set off as Cedarville township, but there is no way to tell from the record where they lived in the township. It is not even certain that all of the settlers found their way onto the lister's record; in fact, it is certain that some of them had no property and consequently escaped being listed.

The question as to who has the honor of being the first white settler in Ross township will never be definitely ascertained. The year after the county was organized in 1803 a large number of settlers began pouring into it from Virginia, Pennsylvania and the states of Kentucky and Tennessee. If tradition may be believed the first settler of Ross township was John Harper, of Harpers Ferry, Maryland, who located somewhere in the northern part of the township with his family in 1804. He purchased one thousand two hundred acres of land and with his four boys began making a home in the wilderness. The family consisted of the father and mother and seven children, and so well did they apply themselves to the making of a new home that they soon had one of the best farms in the county. The Harpers have been prominent landowners in the county for more than a hundred years, several of the descendants of the original Harper having accumulated large tracts of land, especially in Cedarville township.

#### NAMES OF LATER COMERS.

The state of Virginia contributed the next three most prominent of the first settlers: Peter Huffman, William Harpole and Joseph Butcher. Huffman came with his wife and six children to Ross township in 1805 and located on one hundred twenty-eight acres of land which he bought immediately upon his arrival. It is said that for twenty years after the family located here that the log cabin in which they lived had only a large cloth for a door. In 1825 Huffman erected a hewed-log cabin and in this he lived the remainder of his days. Harpole came first to Ross county, Ohio, from Virginia, but by 1806 he was located in Ross township of Greene



county. He settled with his family on two hundred acres near the Madison county line, part of his farm being in that county, and there he lived and reared a large family of children to lives of usefulness. Butcher, who came to the county also in 1806, was married and had a family of three children when he settled here in Ross township.

David Larkin, of Maryland, an unmarried man, became identified with the township in 1806, and soon became the son-in-law of John Harper, above mentioned as the first settler in the township. Larkin erected a brick house in 1827 which was probably the first in the township. He was one of the large landowners of his day.

The year 1808 saw three settlers with their families locating in Ross township: Robinson Fletcher, Peter Woodring and Richard Beeson. Fletcher came from Virginia with his family of six children and bought three hundred acres of land off the Monroe Survey. He continued to reside on the farm until 1855 when he retired from active life and sold his farm to Cyrus Little. Woodring came with Fletcher, and bought three acres of the Monroe Survey and on this he built a small cabin for his family and lived there until they had all died. He then sold his little tract and bought one hundred acres in the southern part of the township where he lived until his death in 1860. Beeson, the third of the 1808 group, was another Virginian, and, like the other two settlers of the same year just mentioned, bought from the Monroe Survey, buying fifty acres of Fletcher for fifty cents an acre. He erected a cabin, but by 1817 he was ready to move on farther to the West and he left the county never to be heard from again. He was one of hundreds of the early settlers of this part of the state who did the same thing.

#### TWO EARLY METHODIST PREACHERS.

Zara Insley was one of the Marylanders to settle in the township prior to the War of 1812. He had two wives, twelve children and one hundred acres of land. Levi Haines came from Kentucky about 1807, bought one hundred acres, built his cabin, and a few years later was killed by falling from a barn which he was helping to erect. Jonathan Flood was one of the first itinerant preachers to locate in the township, and one of the first in the county. He was one of the shouting Methodist preachers, a great worker in the field, in the church, a justice of the peace for years, and one of the most valuable men of the township in its infancy. Joel Dolby, who was, like Flood, a Virginian and a Methodist exhorter, came to the township in 1808. He bought sixty acres of land and continued to divide his attention between the plow and pulpit until his death. There are no members of his family left in the county. John Shigley came from Virginia

in 1808 and lived in Ross until 1828 when he removed to Indiana, where he spent the remainder of his days.

Francis Brock came to the township from North Carolina about 1810. Starting in life with nothing, he located on a small farm which he bought of Insley. He lived in a rude round-log cabin for a few years and then erected a hewed-log house. This gave way in 1839 to a brick house, the second in the township. He kept adding to his holdings until he owned more than two thousand acres, about half of which was in this township. He was a great worker in the Methodist church, and contributed very liberally to its support until his death in 1857.

David Paullin, one of the most prominent of the earliest settlers of the township, became the father of a large family who are still represented in the county. Paullin located here about 1809 and at once purchased a large tract of land, which he and his six sons soon had in condition to yield good crops.

The Towel family made its first appearance in the township shortly after the close of the War of 1812, John Towel, wife and two children coming from Frederick county, Virginia, to Ross township on the backs of a couple of horses. Their household effects consisted of two feather beds, a skillet, a few pans, and a little extra clothing. It is needless to say that a family with such determination would succeed once they got settled. In a few years Towel had a farm under cultivation, a comfortable home and was taking an active part in the life of the township.

The state of Maryland furnished Allen Rickstraw to Ross township in 1816. He came with his wife and two sons and leased land of Fletcher in the Monroe Survey and soon had a comfortable cabin and a few acres cleared. He remained in the township until his wife and two sons died, and then located in another part of the county.

#### COMING OF THE LITTLES.

In 1817 Jacob Little and his family came from Frederick county, Virginia, and bought the fifty-acre farm of Richard Beeson, previously mentioned. He lived in the one-room hut of Beeson until 1825 when he erected a fine hewed-log house. He prospered from the start and within a few years bought three hundred acres from Fletcher for one dollar thirty-seven cents an acre. His descendants are still in the county, several of them being among the county's largest landowners.

There were three other Littles from Virginia who arrived within the next few years: David Little, 1820; Martin Little, 1821; John Little, 1823. David Little arrived in Ross township with one wife, twelve children and twelve and a half cents. He at once bought of Jacob Little one hundred

acres for two hundred dollars, giving his two horses and wagon as the first payment. He worked out the remainder of the purchase price, and at the same time cleared, with the assistance of his family, his own tract and soon had crops growing. Martin Little first purchased two hundred acres and John Little took upon himself the task of paying for four hundred acres.

In 1815 Joseph Atkinson, of Pennsylvania, located in Caesarscreek township, but in 1822 he became a permanent resident of Ross township. He settled on three hundred acres with his wife and two children, the land costing him three dollars an acre. When he looked over his purchase he found a number of empty log cabins on it, the former homes of squatters who had lived there a while and then moved on. Atkinson moved into one of these little cabins and lived there until his family had been increased by nine more children. Atkinson was a thrifty sort of a man, an unusually successful farmer for those days. He combined stock buying with his farming, and in later years he and his son Levi drove cattle through overland to Baltimore and Philadelphia. This proved to be a very profitable business, and in the course of time Atkinson became the largest landowner in the township. His son, Levi, later became the owner of one thousand two hundred forty-eight acres, considerably more than his father owned.

#### AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

Ross township is probably the most level township in the county and has less waste land in proportion to its total area than any other township in the county. It is essentially an agricultural community, there never having been a village in the township, nor has there ever been a townsite platted within its limits. It has had a number of railroads proposed which would cross the township, but so far none of them has ever materialized, although one company got so far along with the building of a road that its right-of-way was graded across the township.

The soil is a sandy loam with enough humus to make it very productive, while the farmers of today have made the soil even more productive than it was a few years ago. Ross township farmers in 1916 used five hundred one thousand one hundred twenty pounds of commercial fertilizer, and plowed under seven hundred thirty-one acres of clover sod. They also had fifty-seven acres of alfalfa, which produced one hundred fourteen tons of alfalfa hay. They cut seven hundred ten tons of timothy and six hundred forty tons of clover hay, while their clover also yielded them one hundred sixty-nine bushels of seed.

The chief crops for the year ending March 1, 1917, were reported by the county assessor as follow: Wheat, 37,146 bushels; rye, 937 bushels; oats, 53,914 bushels; corn, 81,746 bushels; sugar corn, 36 tons; tomatoes,

190 bushels; Irish potatoes, 370 bushels; ensilage, 731 tons. The township had twenty-nine silos in use up to March 1, 1917, and a number were planned for the following year. There was a return of one hundred forty maple trees, which yield a total of eighty gallons of syrup which found its way into the assessor's records. There were also eleven stands of bees reported; apples, nine hundred forty bushels.

The live-stock statistics of Ross township for the same period were as follow: Horses, 1,003; cattle, 1,488; sheep, 2,516; wool clip, 8,940 pounds; hogs, 6,011; hogs died from cholera, 940; cholera infested farms, 27; hens laid 79,250 dozen eggs; cows produced 9,217 gallons of cream for sale, 2,154 gallons of milk for sale and 16,846 pounds of home-made butter.

Ross township holds the best record for the total amount of wool clip, although Cedarville township had the largest number of sheep, having 3,012 to 2,516 for Ross, but Ross had 8,940 pounds of wool as against 8,721 pounds for Cedarville. Ross reported thirty-six renters on farms who were working for wages, as against twenty-nine renters who worked farms on the share system.

#### VILLAGES OF ROSS TOWNSHIP.

Grape Grove and Gladstone are two embryonic villages of the township, but neither has ever been platted. For nearly a century there has usually been a store at one or the other of the two places, and for several years there was a post office at Grape Grove, but since the establishment of free delivery it has been discontinued.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### SILVERCREEK TOWNSHIP.

Silvercreek township was organized on the same day with Ross, March 4, 1811, the eastern third of the county being divided between these two townships on that day, Ross included the northern part and Silvercreek the southern half. According to the order of the commissioners on March 4, 1811, the newly created Silvercreek township was cut off of Caesars-creek township, one of the four original townships of the county organized on May 10, 1803. The order for the setting off of Silvercreek reads as follows:

Ordered that Caesar Creek Township be divided in the following manner Towit:— Beginning at the South line of Greene County one mile east of the old Ross county line and running Thence north eight miles thence East to the East line of said county. Said new Township shall be called & known by the name of Silver Creek Township.

This description of the Silvercreek of 1811 is not exact in more ways than one, or, at least, as the township was laid out at the time, it failed to get the limits here set forth. It actually was set off by a line starting on the south line of the county eight miles from the southeast corner and then running eight and a half miles due north, thence east to the eastern boundary of the county. The above description would make the Silvercreek of 1811 a township exactly eight miles square, whereas, as a matter of fact, its north and south extreme was eight and a half miles, putting its northern boundary where it is today. It seems that the line between Silvercreek and Ross townships as established on March 4, 1811, has never been changed. Hence the Silvercreek of 1811 included all of its present territory, all of the present Jefferson township, together with a strip of about a mile in width off the present New Jasper township. New Jasper township was set off on June 9, 1853, and Jefferson township on June 7, 1858, the creation of the latter township decreasing the size of Silvercreek township by more than half. There has been no change in the limits of the township since the organization of Jefferson in 1858.

#### VIRGINIA MILITARY SURVEY.

Silvercreek township falls within the Virginia Military Survey lands, the township as it stands today being included in fifteen different surveys, wholly or in part of the township. These surveys, their original proprietors, their numbers and acreage, are set forth in the appended table:

<i>Proprietor</i>	<i>Survey No.</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Richard Claiborne -----	889	2,666 $\frac{2}{3}$
Robert Rose -----	1079	1,150
Thomas Posey -----	1084	1,000
John Watts -----	1166	1,000
David Walker -----	1171	1,000
George Baylor -----	1188	2,166 $\frac{2}{3}$
Thomas Posey -----	3081	1,000
Martin Mendenhall -----	4620	500
Samuel Jones -----	3279	500
Thomas Parker -----	3280	1,500
Samuel Jones -----	1081	140
James Galloway, Jr. ----	10954	40
Joseph Spencer -----	13269 and 13270	95
James Browder -----	14717	10
John Marshall -----	1429	1,000

## TAXPAYERS OF THE TOWNSHIP IN 1811.

The first election in the new township was held at the house of Noah Strong. Prior to the election it was necessary to list all the property owners of the new township, a list of whom is given in this connection: James Bryan, Morris Bryan, Herman Browder, Jonathan Browder, William Browder, Thomas Browder, Daniel Browder, Ezekiel Best, George Bone, Cornelius Cruzen, John Campbell, Lemuel Cottrell, Hiram Cotrell, John Curry, Lewis Chance, Thomas Shaner, John Copeland, William Copeland, *Edward Chaney*, David Davis, Andrew Downey, Christopher Ellis, Bazel Foster, William Gilmore, Uriah Hunt, William Hibben, John Hazlett, *Stephen Hussey*, *Mary Hussey*, *Jonathan Hussey*, *Samuel Johnson*, *John W. Johnson*, *Michael M. Johnson*, *Joseph Johnson*, *John S. Johnson*, *Christopher Johnson*, *Moorman Johnson*, Jesse Kelsey, *Joseph Lucas*, Thomas Leonard, Nathan Leonard, Samuel Lee, Andrew Moorman, Pleasant Moorman, Thomas P. Moorman, Chiles Moorman, Micajah C. Moorman, Thomas Moorman, Sr., Aaron Mendenhall, Martin Mendenhall, Stephen Mendenhall, John Myers, Michael Mann, *James Medley*, *John Mickle*, Mary Ross Mullinick, John Oliver, Ebenezer Perry, *Thomas Palmer*, *John Pierson*, Jacob Rumbaugh, George Rumbaugh, Asher Reeves, Mahlon Stratton, George Shaner, Sr., George Shaner, Jr., Adam Shaner, John Sheeley, Michael Sheeley, William Saunders, Noah Strong, George W. Strong, *Robert Stewart*, *James Stewart*, *Mahlon Suard*, William Skates, William Stanberry, Hercules Turner, Walter Turner, Levi Townsend, Abraham Townsend, Richard Thorn-

berry, John Watson, Sr., John Watson, Jr., David Watson; Stephen Williams, Joseph Wilson, Sr., Joseph Wilson, Jr., George Wilson, Edward Warren, Eleanor Wood, *Philip Wikle, Abraham Young*. Those living in that part of the township later set off as Jefferson in 1858 are indicated by italics.

#### TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES.

Silvercreek township is uniformly level, the most broken parts of the township being in the southeastern portion. Caesars creek and its many branches afford ample natural drainage for most of the township. The soil is very fertile and the farmers have been raising good crops now for more than a century. By crop rotation and fertilizing they have kept the soil in such a condition that it has been possible to get good crops year after year. The land was originally heavily forested, but the forests have gradually disappeared and in 1916 there were only eight hundred seventy-six acres of woodland reported in the entire township. Formerly the eastern part of the township was covered with water during the spring months, but careful drainage has reclaimed all of the land which was once considered useless for farming purposes.

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

It is difficult to keep the names of the settlers of Silvercreek township separated from those of Jefferson township, since the latter township was a part of the former from 1811 until 1858. Of course, all of the settlers of the present Jefferson township up to 1858 were classed as residents of Silvercreek. There was also a strip about a mile wide along the eastern side of New Jasper which was a part of Silvercreek until 1853. As near as possible the present discussion of the early settlers of Silvercreek is confined to those who settled within the limits of the township as it is constituted at present.

The first settlers arrived in 1806 from Virginia and North Carolina, that year bringing Noah Strong, Thomas Browder, Thomas Moorman and Martin Mendenhall. Probably the best sketch of the early history of any township in the county from a historical point of view is that which was prepared in the fore part of the '80s by the late Sylvester Strong, the grandson of Noah Strong. Noah Strong came to this county from Vermont in 1803 or 1804 and first located in Caesarscreek township. He hauled the logs and helped to build Beatty's tavern in Xenia in 1804. Later he located in Silvercreek township, near the present site of Jamestown and died there on March 14, 1814, at the age of sixty-three. His grandson, Sylvester Strong, whose valuable history of the early days of Silvercreek township and Jamestown is given in this connection, lived in the township until 1836

and then removed to Atlanta, Illinois, where he died on January 5, 1900, at the age of ninety-five.

#### REMINISCENCES OF SYLVESTER STRONG.

In the year 1807 I was two years old and came to Jamestown with my grandfather. We lived on the old Maysville and Urbana road, one-half miles from the present Jamestown. On the south side of us, at Bowersville, lived a gentleman by the name of Hussey. His descendants are now living in the neighborhood. Harkness Turner settled one mile from the town on General Posey's survey. Martin Mendenhall was proprietor of Jamestown; he owned the south side of the town, having one hundred and fifty acres of land. The north side of the town was owned by Thomas Browder, who came from old Jamestown, Virginia, which was the first white settlement in the United States. Jamestown, Ohio, was named after this town. John Campbell came in the same year and settled where Tod Shelly now resides. Two miles north of Jamestown, the same fall, Isaiah Sutton settled. North of him settled "Granddaddy" Paullin. All of the Paullins of Ross township are descendants and live on the land he settled. These men were our neighbors and when a house was raised people would come for miles around to help. John Shelly and family were neighbors of Washington; they came from Virginia in 1807 and settled on land one-half mile below town. The Shelly family living here now are his descendants. Mr. Shelly and wife lived to be nearly one hundred years old. . . . The first person buried here was my little brother, who lies in the present Jamestown cemetery. The second person buried was a colored woman brought from Virginia by Thomas Browder. In 1814, on the 14th and 15th days of March, my grandfather and grandmother died of the "cold plague," which was then prevailing in the neighborhood. Within ten days Uriah Paullin, Harkness Turner, Mr. Hussey and the Baptist minister's wife all died of the same dread disease. . . . The town of Jamestown was surveyed in 1815 by Thomas P. Moorman and Mr. Thomas, the Clinton county surveyor. The first house raised was the present Parker Hotel property, which was used as a tavern by Thomas Watson. The next house was built by Dr. Matthias Winans, who used it as a store. He was the first physician of the town, and was the father of the late Judge James J. Winans, of Xenia. The next tavern keeper was Zina Adams, the father of the Adams boys living here. The first Fourth of July celebration was held at this tavern in 1830. Seven old soldiers of the Revolutionary War were present. Among them was a man named Allen, a relative of Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary fame. His descendants now live in Allentown, Fayette county. Others present were James Snodgrass, Asa Reeves and Samuel Webb. The last named was present at the surrender of Cornwallis and saw that general hand his sword to General Washington. The names of the other three I do not recollect. We got two mails a week; they were brought by a post boy, who carried the mails from Xenia to Washington C. H. When he got within a mile of town he would blow his horn, which brought all the people together. A tanyard was started by John Miller and William Sterritt in 1810. In 1812, on the 8th of January, the battle of Lundy's Lane was fought in Canada, over two hundred miles away. When the battle was fought old Martin Mendenhall, who was lying on the ground, heard the cannon roar of the battle. He was a great hunter and killed more deer and found more wild honey than any other man. In 1812, 1813 and 1814 the Shawnees, a friendly tribe of Indians, camped around here. I often visited their camp and traded corn-dodgers for venison ham. We baked our bread in an oven on the coals. An old chief named Chieske, who was too old to be a warrior, lived with us and from him I learned to talk Indian. The first meeting house was built at the forks of the road, two and one-half miles south of town. It was a Baptist church. The first pastor was William Sutton. The first hatter in town was Culies. The first tailor was Ephraim Munthaw, a German.



## THE COMING OF THE MOORMANS.

This interesting sketch of Strong's leaves little to be said about the early history of Silvercreek township and the beginning of the town of Jamestown. He mentions at least a score of the earliest settlers and locates them in the township with a definiteness which bespeaks well for his memory. Noah Strong erected a large story-and-a-half log cabin in 1811, which was weatherboarded in later years, and is standing in 1918 in a good state of preservation on the farm of Angie and Emma Strong. There are a few other early settlers concerning whom a little additional information has been preserved.

The Moormans, headed by Thomas Moorman, Sr., arrived in the township in 1808 from Campbell county, Virginia. The family was of Irish descent, the first member of the family coming from Ireland in about the year 1690. The family came to Ohio in the spring of 1807 and stopped one year in Highland county, raising a crop there in that year. In the spring of 1808 they came on to Greene county and located one mile east of Jamestown. Charles F. Moorman was thirteen years old the year his parents located in the township. He was married on November 5, 1816, to Matilda Watson, the youngest daughter of John Watson, and became the father of thirteen children, eleven of them—seven boys and four girls—growing to manhood and womanhood, and all of them becoming useful citizens of the township.

Thomas Moorman, Sr., the head of the Moormans in the county, settled on a thousand-acre tract for which he took a kind of a lease of the owner, Col. John Watts. Moorman became the agent for Watts and had the selling of this extensive tract, Survey No. 1166, Watts allowing him the privilege of using the money at an interest rate of six per cent. A few years later Watts died and when his estate was settled in Virginia it was found that all the remainder of his Greene county possessions had to be sold. At that time there was left only the sixty-acre tract on which Thomas Moorman lived. In order to save this for his aged father, one of his sons, Charles F., bought it for twelve dollars an acre, then a high price for land. Thomas Moorman, Sr., died on October 26, 1845, at the age of eighty-eight and is buried east of Jamestown. Charles F. Moorman died on September 30, 1880, at the age of eighty-five years. The Moormans were instrumental in organizing the first Friends church at Jamestown.

## EARLY INDUSTRIES.

Silvercreek township did not seem to have any mills of any description during the first few years of its career, the first grist-mill being credited to Singleton Farmer. His mill was operated by hand, the "mill" being noth-

ing more than a couple of stones so placed that they ground the grain as the operator turned one stone on the other. Chiles Moorman established what may be said to be the first mill, although it was a very crude affair deriving its motive power from the treading of horses or oxen on a large wheel. This mill stood east of Jamestown in the Moorman neighborhood, and seemed to have done a thriving business.

#### TRANSPORTATION.

Silvercreek township was organized before it had what might be called a highway. In the '30s or '40s a toll road was built in the township, the one from Jamestown to Xenia, and it continued as such until the '70s before it was taken over by the county and made free. It seems that the toll-road system was the only one which would work in the days before the Civil War, and, though they were an expensive luxury, yet the people were glad to get them, even though it cost as much to travel over them as it does to travel by the railroad today—two cents a mile.

Today the township is threaded in every direction with fine roads, the main traveled highways being kept up to a high state of excellence. The township is reached by three inter-county highways: Dayton-Chillicothe I. C. H., running from Dayton through Xenia and Jamestown to Chillicothe; the other road runs through the township from north to south, the northern half being called the Springfield-Jamestown I. C. H., the southern half the Jamestown-Hillsboro I. C. H. These highways offer the township free and easy access in all directions and have been the means of raising land values in the township, and incidentally being of very material benefit to the town of Jamestown. There are also two pikes leading to Jeffersonville, Fayette county, and one to South Charleston; also another pike, known as the Waynesville road, leading from Jamestown southwest to Waynesville. Two miles south on the Hillsboro I. C. H. there is a connection with the Wilmington pike leading through Port William to Wilmington.

The township has had an interesting railroad history, which is treated in detail in the chapter devoted to Transportation in the county. A brief summary of the railroads of the township may properly be included in this connection. There is now only one railroad through the township, although more than one has been projected during the past half century. The first one proposed was to start from Dayton and go east to Belpre to open the coal fields of the state. The road was to pass through Xenia and Jamestown in Greene county. When this road was proposed in the '50s the townships of the county were asked to subscribe stock and Silvercreek township soon took stock in the amount of ten thousand dollars, all but one thousand dollars of this full amount being collected within a short time. The road

seemed on the point of being constructed at once, the right of way was secured, the grading was done from Dayton east as far as Jamestown—and then everything was stopped. It is not necessary to set forth here the causes underlying the failure of the railroad company to complete the road at that time, but the facts are that it was twenty years before the road was actually built through the county. When the project was revived in the middle of the '70s, Silvercreek township, with the aid of a special act of the General Assembly of the state, raised the other thousand dollars which they had promised for the road in the '50s. The road was for many years known as the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad, but in the summer of 1917 was taken over by the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. It was subsequently completed from Dayton to Wellston, never to Belpre, its original eastern terminus, and daily train service is now maintained between Dayton and Wellston, a distance of one hundred and twenty-three miles. According to present indications the road will soon be greatly improved, additional trains added to its service and it will become, therefore, a more valuable road to Greene county in general and to Jamestown in particular.

#### SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

The schools and churches of the township are discussed in detail in other chapters. The school history of the township in general is very much like that of the other townships of the county; subscription schools were practically all that were to be found before the '50s, since which time there have been free public schools open to all the children of school age. Jamestown has had excellent schools for the last half century, and today has a system of schools that will compare favorably with any in the state.

The Friends were among the first to establish a church in the township, the Moormans being of this faith and starting a church east of Jamestown soon after they arrived here. The Baptists were also early in the field and are said to have been holding services as early as 1803. Later the church became divided, as did all the Baptist churches in the county, and two separate congregations arose about 1837. The Christian church made its appearance about 1828, its establishment being largely due to the efforts of Dr. Mathias Winans of Jamestown, and there were soon two churches of this denomination in the township. Both branches of the Christian church, the so-called Campbellite branch, now known as the Disciples, and the New Lights are represented in the churches of the township. Then the Methodists and Presbyterians found a home in Jamestown, along with the Colored Baptist church. The history of these churches may be found in the chapter devoted to the churches of the county.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### CEDARVILLE TOWNSHIP.

The organization of Cedarville township in 1850 followed an agitation which had been carried on for some years prior to its actual organization. There can be no question that it was the influence of the village of Cedarville which furnished the impetus for the organization of Cedarville township. The citizens of Ross, from which the new township was largely created, objected strenuously to any curtailment of their territory and it was two years after a formal effort was made to establish the township that its petitioners succeeded in getting the sanction from the county commissioners for its organization.

In 1848 the first effort to organize the township was met by a counter petition on the part of residents of Ross township, a protest so vigorous that the commissioners refused to grant the prayer of the petitioners. In their protest the Ross citizens said, "Our reasons we will fully set forth in your presence, only adding here that we are not willing to have any of our township cut off, which is already too small, to gratify the caprice or spleen of any." Evidently when the hearing on the petition was held, although the commissioners' records are discreetly silent concerning just what did occur, the Ross objectors were in sufficient force to kill the petition.

Two years later, however, the proponents of the new township were successful and their petition, dated October 28, 1850, was favorably acted upon by the commissioners on the 6th of the following December. The petition, together with the action of the county commissioners, is here reproduced as it appears on the official records:

#### PETITION FOR ERECTION OF CEDARVILLE TOWNSHIP.

To the Honorable Board of Commissioners of Greene County, Ohio:

The undersigned petitioners submit this, the application for the erection of a new township in the County of Greene, composed of territory taken from the townships of Xenia, Caesars Creek, Ross and Miami, bounded and described as follows: [The description and boundaries.] The undersigned petitioners, a majority of the householders residing within the boundary of the proposed new Township, as aforesaid, having given notice of the presentation of the petition as required by law, respectfully submit to the Honorable Board that they believe the proposed new Township necessary; that the interests of the people of the county, as well as those of the petitioners, will be promoted thereby; that the present subdivisions of the County were made at a time when the population was sparse, and on account of the increased population of the above described district of our county within the last few years together with the prospective increase and development

of its resources, renders it highly important and necessary to meet our increasing wants by wholesome changes and regulations. Oct. 28th, 1850.

The Commissioners being satisfied from the testimony of James Townsley, John S. Owens, John W. Walker and John Gibney, that thirty days notice of such intended application was first given by advertisement at three public places within the bounds of said proposed change and that said petition was signed by a majority of the householders residing within the bounds of said proposed change, and that the laws governing the erection of new townships have been complied with in all respects and believing that the prayer of the petitioners is reasonable and just; it is therefore ordered that the territory comprised within the bounds described in the petition be and the same is hereby erected a Township to be called and known by the name of Cedarville Township, and that the Auditor be required to record the boundaries of said township in the book of record.

Ordered that notice be given forthwith by advertisement in the public places in said Township of Cedarville that an election will be held on the 21st of December, 1850, in the town of Cedarville, at the house of John W. Walker in said township, for township officers, viz: three trustees, a clerk and a treasurer to serve until the next township election and until their successors are elected and qualified. December 6, 1850.

#### BOUNDARIES OF CEDARVILLE TOWNSHIP.

The boundaries of the new township of Cedarville as determined by the board of county commissioners were as follow:

Beginning at the Little Miami at the N. W. Corner of that part of the land of Moses Collier, taken from Galloway's survey, No. 7011; Thence S. E. with the line of said Collier's land to the point of intersection with the N. W. boundary line of Finley's survey, No. 435; thence S. W. with the said line of said survey to its point of intersection with the N. E. boundary line of Scott's survey, No. 429; thence S. E. with the original survey lines dividing the surveys of Finley, No. 435, and Culbertson, No. 605, on the N. E. from Scott's No. 429, Gray's No. 603 and Fowler's No. 929, on the S. W. to the S. E. corner of Culbertson's survey, No. 605; thence through the lands of George Townsley to Moudy's mill; thence from said mill along the county road intersecting the Jefferson, South Charleston and Xenia turnpike, and terminating at the fork of the Federal road and the Xenia and Jamestown turnpike; thence along said turnpike to its point of intersection with the line between Silver Creek and Caesars Creek townships; thence along said N. to the S. W. corner of Ross township; thence N. with the Ross township line to the point intersected by the S. E. boundary line of McAdams survey, No. 2247; Thence N. E. with said line to the S. corner of Gates' survey, No. 1560; thence N. E. with the S. E. boundary line of said survey to the E. corner of said survey; thence N. W. with the line of said survey to the lands of Hugh Watt and John Gibson; thence N. E. with the line dividing the lands of Hugh Watt and R. Irvine; thence to the Federal road near the dwelling house of T. Townsley and E. of it; thence E. with the said road to its intersection with the S. W. boundary line of survey No. 559, Jacob Brown's; thence with the said line to the S. corner to the S. corner of survey No. 784; thence N. E. with the line of said survey to its intersection with the line dividing the lands of Thomas T. Bird and James Taylor; thence along along said line to its intersection with the S. E. boundary line of survey No. 786; thence N. E. with the said line of said survey to the line of survey No. 558; thence with the said line of said survey to the W. corner of said survey; thence N. E. with the line of said survey to a point where it is intersected by the N. E. boundary line of survey No. 1352; thence with the said line of said survey to the line dividing Greene and Clark counties; thence with said county line W. to the intersection with the Cortsville road; thence S. following said road near to J. Townsley's where said road intersects the Xenia and Miami township line; thence W. along said line to its intersection with the Little Miami river; thence down said river to the point of beginning.

THOMAS COKE WRIGHT, A. G. C.

## MILITARY SURVEYS.

Cedarville township lies east of the Little Miami river and hence falls entirely within the Virginia Military Survey. The official records show that there are thirty-eight surveys in whole or in part within the limits of the township. Of these, eleven contain one thousand or more acres of land, and only three less than one hundred acres. It is interesting to note that Major-Gen. Horatio Gates, of Revolutionary fame, had a survey of two thousand five hundred acres in the township, the largest in the township. The complete list of surveys, together with the names of the original proprietors, and the number and acreage of each survey, is exhibited in the appended table:

<i>Proprietor.</i>	<i>Survey Number.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Baylor Hill -----	558	1,000
James Culbertson -----	605	666
James Culbertson -----	616	500
Lewis Stark -----	786	1,000
Baylor Hill -----	1324	1,000
Hughes Woodson -----	1352	700
Maj.-Gen. Horatio Gates -----	1560	2,500
John McAdams -----	2247	1,333 $\frac{1}{3}$
Stephen Mason -----	2267	1,200
Warner and Addison Lewis -----	2272	1,000
James Wright -----	2962	1,000
James Ryalls -----	3283	200
George Friskett -----	3376	100
James Lemmon -----	3376	200
Thomas Christie -----	3400	528
William Tompkins -----	3745 and 3746	1,000
James Culbertson -----	4148 and 4149	650
William White -----	4367	250
James Wright -----	4371	130
William Moore -----	4372	140
William White -----	4378 and 4554	455
James Merriweather -----	4473 and 4624	500
Thomas Browder -----	4503	340
James Merriweather -----	4504	199
Francis Dade -----	4561	125
Thomas Browder -----	4667	50
Simpson Foster (representatives) -----	5352	100
Benjamin Grimes -----	5626	153 $\frac{1}{3}$
James Galloway, Jr. -----	6550	150

James Galloway, Jr. -----	6972	600
James Taylor -----	14132	75
William Fitzhugh -----	615	1,000
Baylor Hill -----	1324	1,000
James Galloway, Jr. -----	7011	70

At the first election held in the township at the house of John W. Walker on December 21, 1850, the following officers were elected: Trustees, Thomas A. Reid, Hugh Watt and Samuel Barber; clerk, Samuel Thatcher; treasurer, J. C. Nisbet; constable, John M. Crain. This election brought out one hundred and seventy-three voters, and it is fair to presume that most of the qualified voters cast their ballots at this first election in the township.

#### TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES.

Cedarville township is one of the best farming districts of the state. The soil, a rich, black loam, has a goodly depth and with proper crop rotation has maintained its pristine fertility to a remarkable degree. Within the last few years the addition of commercial fertilizer has brought up the poorer sections of the township to where they produce as good crops as those more favored by nature. The entire township lies in the basin of the Little Miami river, and is drained into that watercourse through Massies and Caesars creeks and their various branches.

The township has been one of the chief centers of the limestone and lime industries for many years. Forty or fifty years ago the manufacture of lime was the most important industry in the village of Cedarville. Massies creek in several places has cut its channel through the stone, the gorge being in some places as much as forty feet in depth. The township also boasts of one of the finest Indian mounds in the state, a full description of which is given in the chapter dealing with the geological formation of the county.

#### TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

The wayfarer who travels the excellent highways that now thread the township in every direction never stops to think that there was a day not so long ago when the roads of the township were practically impassible for three or four months a year. The Townsleys, among the first of the settlers, opened the first road to the county seat, the road beginning near the site of the present village of Cedarville. The first roads were hardly more than bridle paths through the woods, but they answered the purpose until better ones could be provided. The first road which might be dignified by the name of a highway was the Columbus pike, which was built through the township in the middle of the '40s. It was the first gravel road in the township, and when a line of large overland stages began running over this road in 1845

between Columbus and Cincinnati, the people of Cedarville township and Greene county thought they were at last in touch with the outside world. A little later the Federal road was laid out through the township, this road being the longest straight road in the whole county. In the latter part of the '40s the township was all excited over the building of the railroad from Columbus to Xenia, which was to pass through the center of the township from northeast to southwest, and through the village of Cedarville. This is the only railroad which has ever reached the township, although not the only one that has been projected. Between 1896 and 1902 there were repeated attempts to get an electric line through the township, but these never got farther than the paper stage. One line was surveyed and apparently at one time a road was going to be built, but the project finally was abandoned after one man had lost a considerable fortune in trying to get it under construction.

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

The Townsley family were the first to locate within what is now Cedarville township, Thomas Townsley, the first of the family to arrive, reaching here in 1800. He purchased one thousand acres one mile north of the present site of Cedarville, immediately built his cabin and started in to make his home in the wilderness. In the spring of 1801 he returned to Kentucky and helped his brother John to bring his family to the township. The two families lived in the same cabin during the spring and summer of 1801 and in the fall of that year gathered the first corn grown in Cedarville township.

In 1802 the Townsleys were joined by William McClelland, also a Kentuckian, who located with his family on one hundred and fifty acres along Massies creek about a mile from the present site of Cedarville. He came in the spring of 1802 and succeeded in raising enough corn the first year to furnish sufficient corn meal for the first winter. The same year, 1802, Alexander McCoy arrived from Kentucky with his wife and nine children and bought six hundred acres west of where Cedarville later came to be established. He built a cabin, began clearing a small tract and produced his first crop the same year of his arrival.

The year 1802 saw a number of settlers locating in what was to become Greene county the following year, and Cedarville township nearly half a century later. It must be understood that Greene county did not have a definite existence as a separate county until May 10, 1803, the day on which the associate judges first met and divided it into townships. Up until that time it had been a part of Montgomery or Franklin counties, the most of Cedarville township falling within what was then—in 1802—the county of Franklin.

Among the other arrivals in 1802 were David Mitchell, of Kentucky,



who with his wife and four children, located on a quarter section three miles northwest of the present site of Cedarville. He had owned one thousand acres in Kentucky, but like so many of the other early settlers of Greene county, left that state on account of his hatred of slavery. Another of these Kentucky arrivals of 1802, who came here to get away from slavery, was David Laughead. He bought five hundred acres on Clarks run for one dollar and seventy-five cents an acre and soon had one of the most prosperous farms in the county. It is probable that Captain Herrod arrived in the township in 1802. He and his family settled east of where Cedarville presently became established and continued to make his home in the township until his death.

It is impossible to trace the incoming of these first settlers by years, as a glance at one of the early poll-books shows that by the time of the opening of the War of 1812 there were literally hundreds of them scattered over the county. All that can be done in this connection is to select a few of these worthy pioneers concerning whom some definite record has been preserved. Scores and hundreds of others were no doubt equally worthy citizens, but nothing definite is known of their careers in the county. Scores of them died and left no record of their families; other scores lived here a few years and then moved on to other parts of the state or else moved on west to Indiana or other states still farther to the west. A study of the poll-books of the first three decades reveals the fact that hundreds of names found there are not represented in the county today. That is a part of the history of every county in Ohio, and Greene county is no exception to the rule.

#### SOME OF THE "FIRST FAMILIES."

Between 1802 and 1805 a number of settlers located along the branches of the several creeks traversing the township. It was considered a good plan to build a cabin along the bank of a creek in order to be assured of an ample water supply. Major James Galloway, Jr., seemed to have lived in the township a short time after his arrival here in 1803, but evidently he soon located in the county seat. He was the first county surveyor and as such it is evident that he lived in Xenia. He married Martha Townsley, a daughter of Thomas Townsley, in 1805, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Robert Armstrong, one of, if not the first, minister in Greene county. It might be noted here that James Townsley, a son of John, was born in 1802, the first boy born in what is now known as Cedarville township. Sally McCoy, who became the wife of Innis Townsley, was born in 1803, and has the honor of being the first girl born in the township. James Galloway, Jr., died September 11, 1850, at the age of sixty-eight.

Rev. Robert Armstrong came to the township in 1804 and entered a

tract of land on which he lived until his death in 1821 at the age of fifty-five. He was a very active man and was one of the leaders in the county as long as he lived. A more extended mention of his interesting career is given in the chapter devoted to the churches of the county.

The first member of the Bull family to locate in the township was James Bull, a native of Virginia, who came to Cedarville township in 1803. His father, William, a Revolutionary soldier, also came to the county at the same time, dying October 31, 1811, at the age of seventy-one. James Bull died in 1872 at the age of ninety-six. Many of the representatives of the family are still residents of the county.

William McFarland arrived with his family from Kentucky in 1804. He bought one hundred fifty acres along Massies creek near the present village of Cedarville. He was a man of considerable education for those days and soon became one of the leaders in his community and later in the affairs of the county. He was foreman of the first grand jury in 1804. He died September 1, 1816, and is one of the hundreds of early pioneers who are resting in the Massies Creek cemetery.

A number of arrivals in 1805 have left some definite record of their families. Among these are the Kyles, Morelands, Smalls, Reids and Bromagens, the latter the first German family to locate in the township as far as is known. The Kyles are numerous in the county today, and for more than a century have been prominent in every phase of the growth of the county. Samuel Kyle was the first of the family to arrive in the county, coming in 1805 and locating on a large tract west of the present town of Cedarville along Massies creek. He had been married before coming from Kentucky, his wife dying in this township in 1813, leaving him with six children. In 1815 he married Rachel Jackson and by the second marriage had fifteen more children, making a total of twenty-one children for the first representative of the family in the county. It is probable that he holds the record for the largest number of children in the county. Samuel Kyle died on February 25, 1851, at the age of seventy-nine. He served as county surveyor and for many years was one of the associate judges of the county, a record of which is given in the chapter on the Bench and Bar of the county. He was the grandfather of Charles H. Kyle, the present judge of the court of common pleas of the county.

#### SOME OTHER EARLY COMERS.

William Moreland, a Kentuckian, located in 1805 three miles east of the present town of Cedarville on a tract of about two hundred acres. James Small, a brother-in-law of Samuel Kyle, was one of the 1805 group who came from Kentucky. He bought one hundred and fifty acres just north

of where Cedarville later came to be established and there he settled, although he also bought a quarter section in what is now Miami township. He had a family of ten children, two of his children living to be the oldest residents of the township. James Small died on April 23, 1842, at the age of eighty-four and is buried in the Massies Creek cemetery. He was one of the Revolutionary soldiers who located in the township.

James Reid, the grandfather of Whitelaw Reid, the most famous man Greene county has ever produced, was a native of Ireland. In 1805 he arrived in what later came to be organized as Cedarville township and bought a large tract on which he settled with his wife and family of several children. One of his sons, Robert Charlton Reid, married Marion Whitelaw Ronald in 1820, and it was a son of this marriage who eventually became the most famous man of Greene county. A sketch of the life of Whitelaw Reid may be found in another chapter in this volume. James Reid, the first of the family, died April 13, 1822, and is buried in the Massies Creek cemetery. Robert Charlton Reid died on October 17, 1865.

One other noteworthy arrival in 1805 was Elias Eliah Bromagen, the first native of Germany to locate in the township. He came directly from Prussia to Greene county, bringing with him his wife and large family of children. He set to work in the spring of his arrival and harvested a good crop the fall of the same year. He continued to reside in the township until his death in 1828.

In 1806 a widow of the name of Miller located here with her seven children. She had a brother, John Stephens, who had located in the township a short time previously, and lived with him until she had a cabin ready for her occupancy. She and her children had a very trying time in getting here. They started from Pittsburgh down the Ohio river, but their raft was wrecked at a place called Boat's Run, and they made the way from there to this county on foot, carrying all of their few worldly possessions. The family prospered and one of the sons, Jacob, became one of the substantial farmers of the township. At the time of his death in February, 1885, Jacob Miller was probably the oldest resident in the township.

James White, of Kentucky, arrived in 1806 and at once bought a quarter section adjoining the Bromagen tract. He had two sons and three daughters and a wife who excelled in the art of dyeing dress goods. She was an expert spinner and developed a method of coloring goods which brought her services in wide demand. James White died on July 9, 1817, at the age of sixty-three and is buried at Cedarville.

Thomas Paris came from Virginia about 1809 and bought five hundred acres along Massies creek on which he lived until his death, October 6, 1823. He had one of the first orchards in the township, although practically

all the early settlers started an orchard within the first few years of their arrival. John Paris, another member of the family, became the first postmaster of the village of Cedarville in 1834, continuing in office for ten years. John Paris died on July 22, 1858.

The village of Cedarville was laid out in 1816 and has thus had a continuous history for more than a century. Much of the early history of the township clusters around the village and is treated of in detail in the chapter devoted to the town. The town has held most of the industries of the township, most of the churches, and in other ways has included a large part of the active history of the township of which it now contains more than half the population.

#### PRESENT AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

Cedarville township prides itself on its farming and stock-raising, being particularly proud of its stock raisers. Some of the farmers of the township rank with the leaders in the state and nation when it comes to producing a high grade of live stock. The name of O. A. Bradfute is known from one end of the country to the other as a breeder of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and there are other breeders in the township who have made names for themselves which extend far beyond the confines of the township.

But the township is also known for the quality of its grains and fruits; its clovers and ensilages; its milk and egg products; and for everything that a farmer produces on the modern farm—from silos to sausage. The last reports shows the township credited with the following grain yield for 1916: Wheat, 71,131 bushels; rye, 4,614 bushels; oats, 3,946 bushels; corn, 210,719 bushels; clover seed, 49 bushels. During this same year the farmers of the township produced fourteen acres of ensilage and 146 tons of sugar corn, much of which went to fill the sixty-one silos of the township, the largest number in any township in the county. There were 3,316 tons of timothy hay; 512 tons of clover hay; 130 acres of alfalfa producing 380 tons of alfalfa for hay or ensilage; and, so the record states, 67 acres of clover were plowed under. The farmers also used 685,740 pounds of commercial fertilizer, considerably more than was used in any other township in the county. Among miscellaneous crops may be mentioned the following: Tomatoes, 48 bushels; potatoes, 1,270 bushels; onions, 370 bushels; 421 sugar trees producing 214 gallons of syrup; apples, 2,840 bushels; peaches, 40 bushels; cherries, 18 bushels.

The live stock of the township figured up as follows on March 1, 1917: Horses, 1,155; cattle, 2,298; sheep, 3,012, (largest number in the county); hogs, 5,970, with 320 lost by cholera; and 16 cholera-infected farms reported. There were 19,271 gallons of cream sold; 55,053 gallons of milk sold; and

30,111 pounds of home-made butter taken to market. The hens laid 42,960 dozen eggs.

The township reports 17,088 acres under cultivation; 2,358 acres in pasture; 1,875 acres in woodland; 196 acres of orchards; 512 acres of waste land; with a total acreage of 22,029. The woodland is gradually decreasing, although most of the farmers with woodland are keeping their wood lots intact.

#### MOUNT IDA.

Cedarville township had at least one interesting village of the "paper" variety, a village which was born of the brain of Robert Jackson. This creature of his imagination responded to the classical name of Mount Ida, and found a resting place in Military Survey Nos. 605 and 616. It was surveyed by J. Culbertson on April 24, 1841, certified by a justice of the peace on June 19, 1841, and filed for record on June 23, 1841. That plat shows one street, with twelve lots on the west side and five lots on the east—a total of seventeen lots. This village is another case of a man who had a vision which he attempted to materialize, only to find that it was a vision after all. Today the place is not even a memory, and would be unknown if its plat were not recorded among the archives in the court house.

## CHAPTER XX.

### NEW JASPER TOWNSHIP.

When one looks at the map of Greene county as it stands today, he is left to wonder at the processes which were followed in the laying out of some of the townships. For an even half century after the county was organized in 1803 there was no New Jasper township, but on a sunny day in June, 1853, there appeared before the board of county commissioners a lengthy petition signed by one hundred and twenty-eight voters who were residents of a certain tract of territory which they wished to have set off as a new township. They had been living in five different townships for many years: they were from Cedarville, Ross, Silvercreek, Caesarscreek and Xenia townships, portions of which five townships they prayed might be formed into a new township to be known as New Jasper.

Why did these forefathers take this step? Did they think they could live happier lives? Was it a political move, a religious, educational, social, fraternal, financial or civic motive which moved them to this action? There was no village of any considerable size within the limits of the proposed township; all of its prospective inhabitants were within easy distance of Jamestown, Cedarville or Xenia. Yet, for some reason these one hundred and twenty-eight voters, and practically all of them farmers, appeared anxious to have a township which they could call their own. Accordingly, they signed a petition and presented it on June 9, 1853, to the county commissioners, the petition setting forth in a curious roundabout way the limits of their proposed township. This petition and the answer thereto appear on the records couched in the following language:

The petition of John Fudge and one Hundred and Twenty Seven other Household-ers was this day presented to the Board of Commissioners praying that a new Township may be set off embracing the Territory included in the following lines, to wit: Beginning in the Township road leading from Xenia to Jamestown at the corner between the lands of Jonathan Williamson and Hugh Boyd and in the line of Cedarville Township; thence easterly with the line of Cedarville Township to the crossing of the McCrosky road; thence with the said McCrosky road to the corner of Hugh J. McCrosky thence southerly to the corner of Junkins and George; thence nearly the same course to the Northwest corner of Gideon Spahr's Farm; thence with his line nearly the same course to John Spahr's Northeast corner; thence with the same course with his line to Levy Turner's Northwest corner; thence same course to the south fork of Caesar's Creek; thence down the creek with the meanderings thereof to the land line of Elijah Turner; thence with his line and Gideon Baynard's to Thomas Bone's line; thence with this line to John Fudge's line; thence with the line of said Fudge and Bone to the line of David Ford;

thence with the line of said Ford and Fudge to Samuel Petterson's line; thence with the line of said Petterson and Ford and John Lucas to the corner between said Petterson and C. and G. Weaver thence with this line to Caesar's Creek; thence up the creek to the corner between John Tresslar and Abel Wilkinson; thence with their line to Wilford McDaniel's line; thence with the line of John Tresslar, W. McKindric Johnson, George Mallow and R. W. Johnson to the line of G. Gultice.

It appearing to the Board of Commissioners that a majority of the Householders residing within the boundary of said proposed township have signed said petition and that thirty days previous notice of the application has been given by advertisement at three public places within the bounds of said proposed township; it is therefore ordered by the Board of Commissioners that the boundaries of said township so made be recorded in a book according to the provisions of the statute; and that said Township be called and Known by the name of New Jasper and the Commissioners thereupon gave notice of the election of officers in said Township.

The petition was granted and the new township started off on its career in the authorized legal manner. As in the case of other townships cut off from townships earlier formed, the first settlers of the township are recorded in the previously formed townships. In the case of New Jasper the poll-books of five other townships would have to be searched in order to trace the incoming of the settlers; even then it would not be possible to determine where the voters lived, since the poll-books do not give the residence of the voters within the township. For this reason it is exceedingly difficult to trace the early settlers who located within the limits of what became New Jasper township in 1853.

#### MILITARY SURVEYS IN THE TOWNSHIP.

All of the land within the township falls in the Virginia Military Survey, thirteen surveys being wholly or partly within the limits of the township as it is defined today. These surveys, their proprietors, number and acreage thereof, are given in the appended table:

<i>Proprietor.</i>	<i>Survey Number.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Samuel Eddins -----	817 and 8380	1,000
William McGuire -----	1240	666 $\frac{2}{3}$
John Belfield -----	1373	1,100
Tarpley White -----	1376	1,000
Clement Biddle -----	1378	1,200
John McAdams -----	1995	1,333 $\frac{1}{3}$
Benjamin Spiller -----	2358	1,480
Richard Anderson -----	2383	2,533 $\frac{1}{3}$
Benjamin Spiller -----	3910	1,300
Alexander Armstrong -----	4546	133
Richard Call -----	4809	177 $\frac{2}{3}$
Warner and Addison Lewis -----	2244	1,000

## TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES.

The surface of New Jasper township contains some of the best and some of the poorest land in the county. It has a diversified surface, with extensive level tracts and some which are so rolling as to be termed hilly. There are several places in the township where for more than half a century a fine quality of stone has been quarried, there being two especially fine quarries opened. The highest point in the township marked by the government lies near the northwestern corner, near Stringtown, the altitude there being one thousand fifty-nine feet. There are a number of places in the township slightly less than one thousand feet above sea level, most of these lower places being along the lower course of the branch of Cæsars creek. This creek drains the entire township, the surface being thrown in relief in such a manner that the rainfall is readily carried away.

## EARLY SETTLERS.

As has been stated, it is difficult to determine the early settlers of New Jasper township owing to the fact that this township was a part of several other townships all during its pioneer days. It appears from the best evidence that William G. Sutton, a native of Kentucky, who arrived in 1812 with his family, was the first permanent settler to make his home in the territory now comprised within the township. Closely following Sutton, and while the War of 1812 was in progress, came the Bales family. This family consisted of Elijah Bales and his wife and minor children, together with four of his sons, John, Jacob, Elijah and Jonathan, with their wives and families. The Bales family came from Tennessee, a state which furnished quite a number of the early settlers of the county.

The Shooks, Deans and Spahrs came during the period of the War of 1812. Three Shook brothers arrived in 1813, David, Harmonia and John, the latter having a family. William and Daniel Dean were the first representatives of that family to locate here. Philip Spahr came with his family in December, 1814, and the descendants of this family are still found in the county in large numbers. Following the close of the War of 1812, in 1815 and including the period up to 1820, there were but few settlers who located within the limits of what is now New Jasper township. Among these were Leonard Hagle, William Long, Jacob Smith, the Coffers, Clines and a few other families. But the region apparently did not attract many new settlers; rather it was settled up by the numerous children of the first settlers. With every one of the first families having from ten to twenty children each, it did not take many years to furnish a sufficient number of settlers to occupy the township as it stands today.



## LAND TROUBLES.

Many of the first settlers had difficulty in getting the titles to their lands straightened out, the difficulty arising from the fact that some unprincipled Kentuckian by the name of Coleman sold so many fraudulent tax-rights to unsuspecting settlers. This made it necessary for some of the settlers to pay for their land a second time, rather than lose it with all the improvements they had placed on it. The commissioners' records bear ample witness to this trickery on the part of Coleman, and there were other land grafters in those early days. Most of the land in the county was bought for from two dollars and a half to ten dollars an acre. When a settler was unable to make his payments he frequently had to lose everything he had invested, together with whatever improvements he had made.

## EARLY INDUSTRIES.

The subject of industries in New Jasper township may be very briefly dismissed, since it has probably had fewer than any township in the county. For some reason there were no mills along Caesars creek in this section, the settlers going to the mills at Xenia, Oldtown, Cedarville or Jamestown. It is true that there is one early mill on record—a combination saw-mill and corn-cracker—which was run by water power, but it disappeared so long ago that it is difficult to determine where it stood.

## THE STONE INDUSTRY.

Excellent limestone crops out in various places in New Jasper township, and efforts have been made at different times to open quarries. Long & Mallow opened a stone quarry along the banks of Caesars creek, west branch, and near where the railroad crosses the creek. The railroad built a spur down to the quarry in order to handle the output of the quarry, which, as first projected, was to be the largest and best equipped the county had thus far seen. The firm spent thousands of dollars in stripping off the dirt and getting ready to take out the stone. They even went so far as to put in a tile factory in order to make use of the clay which they were stripping from the stone. But the firm was in active business only three or four years, closing down the quarry in about 1908, and the railroad company has since removed the spur which was installed. Another firm which was interested in getting out stone in New Jasper township was the firm of Conklin & Bickett, which had a quarry near the one of Long & Mallow.

## AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

There is considerable rough land in New Jasper township, this arising from the fact that it is crossed by the several branches of Caesars creek. There is an outcropping of limestone along the main branch of the creek,

and a large amount of stone has been taken from the township in two or three quarries. The land which is in the valley of the streams is very productive, however, while the higher land is capable of good crops under modern farming methods. New Jasper is considerably smaller than Ross township and yet it has about three times as much waste land, having 512 acres to 186 acres for Ross, the total acreage of New Jasper being 12,006 against 21,278 for Ross.

The crops for the year ending March 1, 1917, for New Jasper township were reported as follows: Wheat, 44,120 bushels; rye, 131 bushels; oats, 10,117 bushels; corn, 147,241 bushels; Irish potatoes, 200 bushels; timothy hay, 820 tons; clover hay, 796 tons; clover seed, 312 bushels; alfalfa, 69 acres; alfalfa hay, 210 tons; ensilage, 5 acres; ensilage, 511 tons (evidently not all from the five acres); apples, 4,800 bushels; peaches, 220 bushels; cherries, 26 bushels; pears, 18 bushels. The township reported 21 silos.

The live stock report for the same year: Horses, 647; cattle, 991; sheep, 996; wool clip, 5,120 pounds; hogs, 3,066; hogs died from cholera, 1,140; cholera infected farms, 18; cows produced 16,180 gallons of cream for sale, 6,486 gallons of milk for sale and 8,127 pounds of home-made butter. In 1916, New Jasper had 8,750 acres under cultivation; 1,642 acres in pasturage; 986 acres of woodland; 146 acres of orchards; 512 acres of waste land; total acreage of 12,006.

The farmers used 426,110 pounds of commercial fertilizer and one ton of lime in their efforts to secure better crops. They also plowed under 512 acres of clover sod. Drainage in the township amounted to a total of 532 rods for the year 1916. The township reported 1,200 maple trees as being tapped for the purpose of making molasses and sugar. The sugar crop amounted to only 36 pounds and the molasses yield to 740 gallons. It is evident that the entire crop of the maple trees was not reported to the assessor.

#### VILLAGE OF NEW JASPER.

There are two villages known as New Jasper, the old town of the name being about a mile from the railroad, the other, usually designated as New Jasper Station, being on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. The latter is hardly a village and does not pretend to be anything more than a station stop on the railroad, although it has a store, an elevator, a church and a few dwelling houses. It came into existence after the railroad was completed through the county in the latter '70s.

The original village of New Jasper is more than half a century old; in fact, there was a store there three-quarters of a century ago. It had hoped to be on the railroad line which was to connect Xenia and Jamestown, but as fate would have it, the little village was left about a mile to the

south of the road. This effectually dashed whatever hopes it may have had concerning its future possibilities as a village.

There is no record of the town being platted, but tradition is responsible for stating that a man of the name of Slagle was the first settler on the site, and if the place may be said to have had a founder, this Slagle may be credited with the honor. There has always been a store in the village, while a blacksmith shop completes the business enterprises of the hamlet. The store has changed hands so frequently that it would be impossible to trace the shifting ownership. Its present owner is John A. Fudge, who has been there longer than most of his predecessors. Doctor Davis has been located in the village for several years, and has built up a large practice in the surrounding community. There is one church, the Methodist, but there has never been a school house in the village, the nearest school building at the present time being about a mile south of the town. The population of the village is not more than fifty.

#### NEW JASPER STATION.

After the Baltimore & Ohio railroad was built through New Jasper township, the station of New Jasper was started where the railroad company built a siding. An elevator was built and has been operated by John Jenks & Son, of Jamestown, for a number of years. The place has never been platted.

#### STRINGTOWN.

In the northwestern part of New Jasper township is a collection of houses clustered along the road, which, for a number of years, was known as Stringtown. At the present time there are nine houses which might be considered as a part of the "town," and five of these are occupied by colored families. There is no store or church at this point.

To this immediate vicinity there came in the years before the Civil War a number of colored families to make their homes. They were from the South and were settled on farms in the corner of the township by their owners. It seems that the colored families, four in number, were freed by their masters, who, in a sincere desire to help the poor people, came to this county and bought about four hundred acres of land and gave it to them for their permanent homes the remainder of their days. These colored families were the Curls, Smiths, Brooks and Fergusons, well remembered by the older generation of the township, although they have long since left the township, most of them and their descendants finally locating in Xenia. The colored people living along the road in Stringtown are not of this group, being later comers into the township. The Young family now owns the old Curl and Smith farms.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### SPRING VALLEY TOWNSHIP.

Spring Valley township came into existence more than half a century after Greene county was organized. Prior to its creation in 1856 it had been a part of three other townships, Sugarcreek, Caesarscreek and Xenia, each of these three townships having been in existence more than fifty years. The greater portion of the Spring Valley township as set off in 1856 had been included within the limits of Sugarcreek township since 1803. The fact that the township had been included for more than fifty years within other townships previously organized renders it a difficult matter to follow the careers of its early settlers. Its voters up to 1856 were to be found on the poll-books of one or the other of the three townships which contributed of their territory to form the township in that year.

Spring Valley was one of the three townships organized in the '50s, the other two being New Jasper (1853) and Jefferson (1858). As in the case of the other two it is difficult to see the benefit to be derived from the organization of the township, but the fact remains that a sufficient number of voters of Sugarcreek, Caesarscreek and Xenia townships agreed upon the organization of a new township in 1856 in order to make its creation possible. Their petition was presented to and granted by the commissioners on December 3, 1856, the petition as shown by the commissioners' record being as follows:

The petition of Robert Evans, Ambrose Elkins and R. D. Page and other citizens and householders of Sugar Creek, Caesars Creek and Xenia Townships, Greene County, Ohio, praying the Board of County Commissioners to set off a new township, composed of territory taken from territory heretofore included in the bounds of Sugar Creek, Caesars Creek and Xenia Townships, was this day taken up and read in open session. The Commissioners having taken testimony on the filing of said petition, which to them was satisfactory, that the intention of the petitioners had been legally administered and that the signers of the said petition in number contained a majority of all the householders in said bounds. It is therefore ordered that the territory included in the bounds as particularly set in said petition be and the same is hereby set off a new township and by the name and style of Spring Valley Township.

The township as organized in 1856 was bounded on the west by Sugarcreek township, on the north by Beaver creek, Sugarcreek and Xenia townships, on the east by Xenia and Caesarscreek townships and on the south by Warren and Clinton counties. The greatest length of the township is seven miles and its greatest width a little less than six miles. It was originally

heavily wooded, but practically all of the timber has disappeared, the last report on March 1, 1917, crediting it with only 1,642 acres of woodland out of a total area of about 15,000 acres.

The township is well provided with natural means of drainage. The Little Miami river enters it from Sugarcreek township three miles from the Warren county line and meanders through the southwestern corner of the township. Cæsars creek courses from the north through the eastern middle of the township. The many branches of these two watercourses afford ample drainage for all the township, Gladly run and Andersons fork being the largest of the minor streams.

The fact that the township is crossed by the Little Miami river and Cæsars creek is responsible for most of the broken land found within its limits, although the 1917 report to the township assessor schedules only 131 acres of what was termed "waste" land. There is no better farming land in the county than is to be found in the township, and the crops grown by its farmers will compare favorably with those grown by the farmers in any other part of the state.

#### THE VIRGINIA MILITARY SURVEY.

Practically all of the township falls within the Virginia Military Survey, all, in fact, except about two square miles in the extreme southwestern corner, that part west of the Little Miami river. There are twenty-seven surveys, wholly or in part in the township, eight of which are of one thousand acres each or more. Only four of them call for less than one hundred acres. A complete list of the proprietors of these surveys, together with the number and acreage of each survey, is given in the appended table:

<i>Proprietor.</i>	<i>Survey Number.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Churchill Jones -----	417	1,000
Francis Muire -----	432	1,000
Albert Gallatin -----	571	776 $\frac{2}{3}$
Albert Russell -----	598	1,000
John Crittenden -----	904	1,000
Samuel Eddins -----	1044	1,000
Leroy Edwards -----	1281	677
Benjamin Moseley -----	1297	666 $\frac{2}{3}$
William Smalley -----	1965	200
Robert Gibbons (heir) -----	1295	1,000
Aaron Mercer -----	2233	900
David Price -----	2424	200
John Gibson -----	2425	400
Alexander Anderson -----	2426	733 $\frac{1}{3}$

Lewis Booker -----	3576	475
Lewis Booker -----	3577	250
George Holland -----	3583	280
George Holland -----	3584	230
William Fowler -----	4499	60
Ichabod B. Miller -----	4595	200
Nathaniel Massie -----	4704	460
Henry Field (representatives) -----	4871	500
James Galloway, Jr. -----	5131	80
James Galloway, Jr. -----	9365	43
Allen Latham -----	12248	1,000
Pamelia and Penelope Russell -----	2565	1,730
Moses Bradford -----	15237	5

## EARLY SETTLERS.

It has been stated that all of the early settlers of this township were identified with one of the three townships which contributed of their territory in 1856 to form Spring Valley township. The names of every pioneer of the territory now comprised within the township may be found on the poll-books of either Sugarcreek, Xenia or Cæsarscreek townships, most of them being identified with Sugarcreek. Among the arrivals during the year 1803-1805 may be mentioned William, Samuel and Robert McKnight, Amos Compton, Edward Mercer, Jesse Sanders and Josiah Elam.

The Elam family became one of the most prominent of the early families of the township, and many of the descendants are still found in the county to this day. Josiah Elam had fought in the Revolutionary War, and was married several years before coming to the county. One of his sons was old enough to participate in the War of 1812. Josiah Elam and his wife reared a family of ten children, all of whom grew to manhood and womanhood and married. One of the Elams, John B., born in Greene county, later settled in Indianapolis, Indiana, where he became one of the most prominent lawyers of that state.

In 1816 a group of settlers from Pennsylvania located in what was later to become Spring Valley township. It was the custom in those days for some one in the East to organize a party of at least half a dozen families and conduct them to the newer states in the West, and it was such a party that found a home in Greene county in Spring Valley in 1816. Numerous other such groups of settlers came from Pennsylvania, Virginia, the Carolinas, Kentucky and Tennessee. The Collins family was one of the most prominent of the Pennsylvania party of 1816.

Spring Valley township boasts a number of citizens who have made a

name for themselves along some particular line. Among these sons of Spring Valley may be mentioned the following: Michael Daugherty, who operated the first oil (flax) mill in the county; John Clark, an associate judge for twenty years; George Barrett, a wool manufacturer; James E. Hawes, common pleas judge for two terms; I. M. Barrett and Joseph G. Gest, both of whom represented the county in the General Assembly of the state; Levi Riddell, county surveyor; T. R. Schnebly, for many years one of the leading lawyers of Xenia; William J. Alexander, teacher and lawyer for a generation, and Moses Walton, for many years an extensive dealer in cattle and hogs.

#### EARLY INDUSTRIES.

The tracing of the early industries of the county is an extremely difficult matter. All of the early mills have disappeared so long ago that the oldest inhabitant scarcely remembers anything definite about them. The location of most of them is now more or less a matter of tradition, and since no written account has been preserved concerning them, it is impossible to ascertain any very definite information about them.

It is specifically stated that in 1880 the township had three flour-mills, two saw-mills, one woolen factory, one oil mill and one tow-mill. There was a large pork-packing establishment in the village of Spring Valley which had been established in 1855 by Moses Walton. His sons were engaged in the manufacture of bagging for several years prior to the burning of their plant in December, 1881. The first woolen-mill made its appearance in 1844 in the village of Spring Valley under the direction of George Barrett. The linseed-oil industry was started by James Daugherty in 1829 along Glady run and in 1832 Michael Daugherty, his father, built a mill on the site of the village, and engaged in the manufacture of both oil and, somewhat later, carded wool. The pork-packing industry began in 1855 and continued with gradually decreasing business until it was discontinued by Walton in 1883. After Walton quit killing hogs in 1883 he continued curing hams and bacon until 1893, getting his fresh meat from Chicago.

#### SCHOOLS.

The township in common with all the other in the county began its educational career with the rude log school houses. These gave way to frame buildings and some of these again later to brick structures. As the population of the township increased from year to year additional school buildings were erected until they reached the maximum number of eleven in the '70s. With the introduction of the idea of consolidation some of the schools have been abandoned.

## CHURCHES.

Spring Valley township has had its full share of the churches of the county from the beginning, although there are not as many in the township today as there were fifty years ago. The Methodists have the largest membership and at one time had five churches in the township. The Baptists once had two flourishing churches, but they have disappeared. The first church in the township was organized by the Friends as early as 1808, their log church standing about three miles east of the village of Spring Valley. A complete history of the churches of the township may be seen in the chapter devoted exclusively to the churches.

## ROADS AND BRIDGES.

The township is well provided with good roads and they are being improved each year. Formerly there were a number of toll roads, but these were gradually taken over by the county, and it has been several years since the traveler had to stop every few miles and pay his two cents per mile for the privilege of driving along the road. The streams are spanned with substantial bridges, the largest bridge in the county being the one across the Little Miami just below Roxanna, near the south line of the township. There is another bridge across the Little Miami at the village of Spring Valley. Cæsars creek is spanned by four bridges in the township, one bridge spanning the creek on the line between Spring Valley and Cæsarscreek townships.

## AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

The farmers of Spring Valley have been prosperous for a hundred years, but never more so than in 1918. Their crops are the equal of any other township in the county and Greene county claims to be second to none in the state. The following summary of the crops, amount of live stock, and general agricultural statistics has been taken directly from the report compiled from the township assessor's report for the spring of 1917. The major crops grown by the farmers with their yield were as follows: Wheat, 47,436 bushels; corn, 139,716 bushels of shelled corn; oats, 6,727; winter barley, 416 bushels; acres of ensilage, 14; tons of sugar corn, 49; potatoes, 1,780 bushels; onions, 180 bushels; sugar trees, 1,240; timothy hay, 926 tons; clover hay, 510 tons; alfalfa, 72 acres, and 161 tons; tobacco, 7,460 pounds. Joseph Benson had fifteen acres of tobacco in 1917, for which he received twenty-five cents a pound in the spring of 1918.

In the way of live stock the township reported the following: Horses, 880; cattle, 1,593; sheep, 1,075; wool clip, 370 pounds; hogs, 6,137; hogs



died of cholera, 527; hog-cholera farms, 22. The dairy business in figures looked prosperous, as witness these figures: cream sold, 3,723 gallons; butter, home-made, 7,174 pounds; milk sold, 10,677 gallons. The humble hen contributed 71,140 dozens of eggs.

The question of keeping the soil in condition to produce the best crops has been one of increasing importance. Last year the farmers of the township turned under 391 acres of clover sod. They also used 437,120 pounds of commercial fertilizer and two tons of lime on their land. Among other interesting statistics relating to the farmers of Spring Valley township as revealed by the last report to the county auditor are the following: Acres cultivated, 10,140; pasture land, 2,712 acres; timber land, 1,642 acres; orchards, 43 acres; waste land, 131 acres; total acres owned in the township, 14,668.

#### ROBINSON.

One of the most pretentious of the early villages of Greene county—on paper—was the quondam village of Robinson. There is probably not a person now living in the county who would be able to give a complete history of this once flourishing village—as it existed in the mind of its fond promoter. But a reference to the official records shows the existence of such a village in what is now Spring Valley township.

The site was laid in Military Survey No. 904, and the owner was one Edward Robinson. The site was surveyed in May, 1837, by Moses Collier, then surveyor of the county, and recorded on May 25, 1837. It contained ninety-four lots, most of them being sixty-six by one hundred and fifty feet. It had a so-called Main street of sixty-six feet in width, and other streets of varying width, while the whole site was girdled with a street—a boulevard, it would be called today. It was a good looking and prosperous town—on paper.

#### GREENWOOD SPRINGS.

The plat of Greenwood Springs was surveyed by Robert Evans on March 1, 1854, and recorded three days later. The site was owned by W. H. Moseley and was a part of Military Survey No. 12248, lying in what is now Spring Valley township, along the Little Miami river and the railroad. Part of the lots were between the river and the railroad, the remainder being east of the railroad. This is another of the proposed towns of the county that owe their platting to the railroad, but which, like several others, was not destined to get beyond the paper stage. The entire plat contained forty lots, fourteen between the river and railroad, the remainder being across the railroad track.

## CLAYSVILLE OR ROXANNA.

The village of Claysville or Roxanna, located in the southwest corner of Spring Valley, on the east side of the Little Miami river, is on a part of Military Survey No. 4704. The beginning of the village was due to the building of the railroad through the county in the middle of the '40s. The site of about five and a half acres was surveyed into twelve lots by Samuel T. Owens, then surveyor of Greene county, and recorded on April 29, 1845. The proprietor was Elias Adsit, according to the public records, although one John Speer is said to have been interested in the townsite. It was too close to Spring Valley, two miles to the north, to hope to become a place of any importance and never had more than a half dozen houses in it. There was a grain elevator built along the railroad shortly after the railroad was built through the county, but it was never extensively used. A. Alexander owned and operated the elevator for several years, but it has been discontinued for a quarter of a century. At the present time the village of Roxanna has a population of seven.

## TRANSYLVANIA.

A village by the name of Transylvania was platted by Samuel T. Owens, county surveyor, for the heirs of J. W. Merrick. E. F. Drake and Benoni Nesbit were the agents and attorneys for the heirs and had the surveying done and took charge of the sale of the lots. There were only ten lots, "irregular for most part, located on southwest bank of the Little Miami, in part of sections 18 and 24, township 4, range 5." The survey was made on the 16th and 17th of May, 1850. The plat was sworn to and acknowledged by Lydia Merrick on November 30, 1850. This proposed village was immediately west of the Little Miami, across the river from the town of Spring Valley, along the Xenia-Cincinnati pike. Its platting was the extent of its history.

There was a small hamlet bearing the name of Transylvania in existence on the above site as early as the '20s. This Transylvania was the forerunner of the village of Spring Valley. When the railroad was surveyed through the township in the fore part of the '40s, the Waltons decided that the best site for the town would be on the east side of the Little Miami, and accordingly platted their town on that side. This meant the dissolution of whatever was left of the ancient village of Transylvania, its few inhabitants and business enterprises moving across the river to the new site. Little is known of the original Transylvania other than that a man by the name of Jeffrey Truman had a tavern there, and presumably had a small store of some description.

## SPRING VALLEY.

The village of Spring Valley is one of the villages which came into being following the building of the Little Miami railroad through the county in the '40s, and owes its existence primarily to the railroad. It was surveyed in 1842 by Samuel T. Owens, surveyor of Greene county, for the two men who owned the town site, Edward and Moses Walton, father and son. The site lies in Military Survey No. 4871, originally owned by Churchill Jones.

For some reason the owners of the townsite did not appear before the county recorder to have their plat filed until February 16, 1844. The Waltons appeared before Joseph Mason, a justice of the peace, on February 14, 1844, and their sworn statement on that day sets forth a full description of the site. It is recited that the surveying was done on January 18, 19 and 20, 1842, by Owens; that Owens filed his report on January 31; that the plat contained 11.57 acres, of which Moses Walton owned 7.39 acres and Edward Walton had 4.18 acres; that it was located on survey No. 4871; finally, that there was a total of forty lots, all of which are carefully delineated.

Since the original plat was made there have been a number of additions to it, a summary of which is given in the appended table. The table shows the proprietors of the additions, the number of lots, and the dates of the recording of the additions.

<i>Proprietors.</i>	<i>Lots.</i>	<i>Date of Recording.</i>
Moses Walton -----	17	March 30, 1848
Edward Walton -----	16	1848
Edward Walton -----	6	May 3, 1849
Edward Walton -----	6	April 15, 1854
Michael Daugherty -----	10	July 15, 1872
Moses Walton -----	28	April 26, 1878
Moses Walton -----	73	April, 1882
Moses Walton -----	13	October, 1881
J. F. Stump -----	23	October 26, 1886
T. M. Scarff -----	12	April, 1909

The plat records in the court house note that lots 1-48, inclusive, were vacated on February 20, 1884. The lots credited to Moses and Edward Walton in 1848 appear to have been in part, at least, resurveys of the original site. The record is not clear on this point, but is given as it appears.

## HISTORY OF THE TOWN'S DEVELOPMENT.

The town of Spring Valley came into existence fourteen years before the township of Spring Valley was organized, the town being in Sugarcreek township at the time it was platted in 1842. The township of Spring Valley was not set off by the county commissioners until 1856. The town is located on the Columbus-Cincinnati pike, where the road crosses the railroad, while one side of the town abuts the Little Miami river. It is in a good location for a trading center, and with the railroad and good highways, the town has enjoyed a steady growth. The electric line which formerly connected the town with Dayton is being dismantled in the spring of 1918, and thus the town loses direct connection with Dayton. This electric line was projected to operate between Dayton and Wilmington, but it was never built any further than from Dayton to Spring Valley.

Spring Valley has had an uneventful career for more than three-quarters of a century. It has had its share of the small industries common to towns of this size; there have been saw-mills, flour-mills, wagon shops, shoe-repair shops, blacksmith shops, tailor shops, tinshops, and the usual complement of merchants of various kinds. There can be no question that the village at one time in its career was of much more importance industrially than it is at the present time. Most of the industrial enterprises of the township have been centered in the village, an account of which has been given in part in the discussion of the township.

Moses Walton, one of the proprietors of the town, was the most important man in the village for a long period of years, and continued active in business until his death, December 8, 1897. He was a very successful business man, and it seemed that he made a success of everything to which he turned his hand. At one and the same time he had the largest general store in the village, packed large quantities of pork each year, and engaged in farming on an extensive scale. His sons inherited their father's ability to manage industrial enterprises, and for a number of years prior to 1881 they had probably the largest bagging factory in the county in Spring Valley. Their plant burned down in 1881 and they never rebuilt. The two sons of Moses Walton, Moses, Jr., and Samuel, were in partnership from 1868 until the business was closed. The linseed-oil-mill and woolen-mill of Michael Daugherty have already been mentioned. Daugherty was an Irishman and a superior business man, if his career in Spring Valley may be taken to substantiate the statement. He had the first industry in the village, and, like his contemporary, Moses Walton, was a man of varied interests. He ground linseed oil, carded wool, engaged in the dry-goods business, bought and sold stock and drove it overland to Baltimore and other eastern markets, and also killed and packed thousands of hogs annually. He also found time, with the assistance of his good wife, to rear ten children, all of whom grew

to maturity. They are now all deceased, not a member of this large family living in the county today.

It is not too much to say that these two sterling old pioneers of Spring Valley, Moses Walton and Michael Daugherty, did more for the town in the first half century of its existence than any other two men. Since their day scores of business men have come and gone, but these two have never had their counterpart—they stand on a niche apart from their successors in the business world as represented by the village of Spring Valley.

#### SPRING VALLEY IN 1874.

A local newspaper in 1874 summarized the village of Spring Valley as follows: Population, 550, two groceries, one dry-goods store, one shoeshop, one drug store, two blacksmith shops, one woolen factory, one hotel, one tin-shop, one cooper shop, one livery stable, one grain dealer, one harness shop, one oil-mill (flax-seed oil), one flour-mill, one pork-packing establishment, and one so-called "bagging-mill," operated by S. and M. Walton, which was also known as a tow-mill, this particular mill of Spring Valley being engaged in making flax material for the bags used in packing cotton in the South. The local mill did not make the bags. The village, furthermore, had three physicians, a lawyer, four churches and a school house.

The cooper shop was operated for several years by Giles Kinney and was the largest industry of its kind in the county. Walton had a number of partners in the pork-packing business, being associated at one time with William Byrd and at another time with Aurelius Alexander. The old carding factory of Daugherty closed down after Barrett opened his woolen-mill. I. M. Barrett opened his woolen-mill in 1865 along the railroad about three-quarters of a mile north of the village, using both water and steam power. It was closed in 1910, the building still standing in a good state of preservation.

The village now has three churches: Friends, Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Protestant. The Methodist Episcopal congregation erected a handsome new structure in 1907. The building, which was made of concrete blocks, was erected at a cost of about eight thousand dollars. The same year also saw the completion of a new school building, which was likewise constructed of concrete blocks. The use of concrete blocks in the construction of these two public buildings may account for the interest taken in the cement-block industry in the village.

#### THE SPRING VALLEY OF TODAY.

The passing of the years has seen the passing of all of the early industries of Spring Valley. Gone forever is the pork-packing industry, the woolen industry, the linseed-oil industry, the cooperage industry, and

the linen industry. They have had their day and there is little probability that one of these five industries that once flourished in Spring Valley will ever return. But in their places have come others: Canning factories, cement-block plants, automobile garages and other industries of the past few years have stepped in to take their places. But there is not as much money expended for labor at the present time as there was in the days immediately following the Civil War.

The business interests of the village in 1918 are represented by the following individuals and firms:

Bakery, C. E. Harnisch; bank, Spring Valley National Bank; barbers, C. H. Dill, C. M. Moon; blacksmiths, C. M. Reynolds, T. M. Underwood, T. M. Gartrell; canning factory, Spring Valley Packing Company; coal, fencing, etc., I. O. Peterson, J. W. Fulkerson; creamery, Western Ohio Creamery Company, J. A. Long Creamery Company; dry goods, E. N. Barley; garage, Henry Walton; general merchandise, Spring Valley Mercantile Company; groceries, Arch Copey, C. A. Sollers, D. C. & L. Wilson; hotel, Valley House; livery, P. E. St. John; lumber, R. I. Starbuck; meat market, Samuel Holland; poolrooms, John Thomas, William Mott; physician, W. M. Hartinger; printing, J. Val Sims; restaurant, Mrs. E. H. Haines; veterinary, R. V. Kennon.

#### TOWN OFFICIALS FOR 1918.

The officials of Spring Valley in 1918 are the following: J. W. Fulkerson, mayor; C. H. Butler, clerk; Roy Eagle, treasurer; William Copey, marshal; Luther C. Hartsock, assessor; W. E. Crites, John Hood, E. M. Cropsey, Arthur Moon, T. M. Scarff and T. M. Cartrell, councilmen.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP.

Jefferson township, the last in the county to be organized, is located in the extreme southeastern corner of the county. It is seven miles from east to west and about four miles from north to south, its northern boundary not being a due east and west line. When the county was divided into townships on May 10, 1803, the territory now in Jefferson township was a part of Caesarscreek township, but after the organization of Silvercreek township in 1811 it became a part of that township. It continued a part of the latter township until its separate organization as a result of a petition to the county commissioners on June 7, 1858.

Since the township was not organized until it was completely settled, all of its pioneer history is really a part of the history of the other two townships of which it was a part for so many years, particularly of Silvercreek township. However, an effort is here made to mention some of the early settlers who were identified with the territory which became Jefferson township in 1858. For many years prior to its organization there had been a voting precinct at Bowersville, and it was the citizens of that thriving village in 1858 who took the initiative in forcing the organization of the new township. The official beginning of the township is set forth in the county commissioners' records under date of June 7, 1858, and reads as follows:

The petition of Elijah Husey, George Hutcheson and 136 other residents of Bowersville precinct, Silvercreek Township, praying the Board of County Commissioners to set off a new township, composed of Territory of said Bowersville precinct and as particularly set forth in said petition, was this day taken up and read in open session. The Commissioners having taken testimony as per papers on file with said petition which to them was satisfactory that the intention of said petitioners had been legally advertised and that the signers of said petition in numbers contained a majority of all the householders in said boundaries; it is therefore ordered that the Territory included in the bounds as particularly set forth in said petition be and the same is hereby set off a new Township by the name and style of Jefferson Township.

It is ordered that a record be made of the boundaries as particularly set forth in the said petition in the records containing the transaction and records of the County Commissioners.

It is further ordered that notice of an election for three Trustees, one Clerk and one Treasurer for said Township be given, pursuant to the statute which is accordingly done.

The name of the township is said to have been the suggestion of Peter Bowermaster, a disciple of Thomas Jefferson. As has been stated, the early

citizens of the township were identified with the other two townships which, up to 1858, included all the territory within the township as created in that year. Thus the poll-books of Silvercreek township in 1811, and for the succeeding years up to 1858, include the names of all the early voters of what was to become Jefferson township.

THE OLD VIRGINIA MILITARY SURVEY.

The township lies wholly within the Virginia Military Survey. Included in the township, wholly or in part, are twenty-four separate surveys, fourteen of which are for tracts ranging from one thousand to two thousand three hundred and thirty-three and one-third acres. Eight of the tracts call for exactly one thousand acres. A complete list of the proprietors of these surveys, together with the numbers of the respective surveys and their acreage, is set forth in the following tabulation:

<i>Proprietor.</i>	<i>Survey Number.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Robert Draffen -----	850	1,000
Abraham Hite -----	836	1,000
Clement Read -----	925	1,333
Joseph Eggleston -----	936 and 951	2,333 1/3
Clement Biddle -----	1228	1,200
Cadwallader Wallace -----	1273	1,200
Alexander Balmain -----	1274	1,200
Robert Kirk -----	1336	1,000
Carter Page -----	1729	1,000
Carter Page -----	1732	1,000
Samuel B. Greene -----	2387	666 2/3
Duncan Cameron (heir to Hugh) -----	4887	100
Thomas Ray -----	4905	100
Thomas Bailey -----	5491	105
David Maron -----	5977	400
Henry Tatun -----	5981	296
Richard J. Waters -----	6620	540
Simpson Foster (representative) -----	7021	250
James Galloway, Jr. -----	13290	150
William Henry Dangerfield -----	13378	1,333
E. P. Kendrick and Henry Warner -----	13623 and 13663	75
Clement Biddle -----	868	1,000
George Carrington -----	872	1,000
Edward Carrington -----	841	1,000



## TOPOGRAPHY.

The surface of Jefferson township is uniformly level, with just enough variation in the surface to make it susceptible of easy natural drainage. The general altitude of the township is something more than one thousand feet above sea level, the government survey giving the altitude as ranging from 1,028 to 1,049 feet. Practically all of the township is drained to the west, its surplus water finding its way into Cæsars creek through a number of small streams, known as runs, namely: Love, Grog and Painters. Love run is the small stream which passes through Bowersville on its way southwest to Cæsars creek. The extreme eastern portion of the township drains to the east into Rattlesnake creek.

## EARLY SETTLERS.

The honor of being the first permanent settler in what finally came to be organized as Jefferson township is credited to Christopher Hussey, who came from his native state of Tennessee in 1806, and located near the present village of Bowersville. Hussey married Margaret Haughey sometime after coming here and they reared a family of nine children. After the death of his first wife he married Catharine Lockard, the second marriage resulting in eleven more children. This first settler in the township died in March, 1873. Many of his descendants are living in the township today.

Probably the second settler was John Mickle, also a native of Tennessee, who became a son-in-law of Hussey. Mickle taught the first school in that settlement and was the only teacher thereabout for a number of years. Following close after these first two settlers came Robert Stewart from Washington county, Virginia, with his wife and five children. He arrived in the township and located about a mile northwest of Bowersville on March 11, 1810. The family came in a wagon all the way from their native state, not taking the Ohio river route as did so many of the early settlers who came from the East.

It is not possible to follow the succeeding settlers in the order of their arrival. A number were here in 1811 when the territory now within the township became a part of the newly organized Silvercreek township of that year. Unfortunately, it is impossible to tell from the poll-books where the settlers lived, but it is certain that there must have been nearly a hundred families living in the township by the close of the War of 1812.

To enumerate a number of the other early settlers. The Klins, Hammers, Arys—three brothers, Charles, William and John—Rumbaugh,

Blanes, Haugheys and some others were here at the opening of the War of 1812. Kline settled in the western part of the township; the Rumbaughs located south of Bowersville, about half way between the village and Port William. Asher Reeves built his rude cabin near what later became known as Blanetown. The Blanes once had a store three miles due north of Bowersville.

John Haughey, a native of Virginia, had married Patience Studivan before coming to the township in 1810 or 1811. They were a very youthful couple when they set out after their marriage, he being twenty-one and she eighteen, and it must have been an interesting honeymoon trip that brought them to the wilderness of Jefferson township. But they lived through all the hardships of those pioneer days and reared a family of twelve children, ten of whom grew to manhood and womanhood and married and reared families of their own. There is not a Haughey left in the township.

John Bales was another of the first arrivals, he having come early enough to represent his settlement in the War of 1812. He was married during the progress of the war to Sarah Lucas. He bought land, reared a family and became a substantial citizen of the township. He died on March 11, 1864, and his widow survived him ten years, her death occurring on June 8, 1874.

One of the young unmarried men to come to the township after the War of 1812 was Benjamin Vanniman, who was born in Pennsylvania, September 17, 1795. It is not known just when he came to the township, but the records show that he was married to Sophia Hussey, the daughter of Pioneer Hussey, in 1817. They became the parents of thirteen children. The mother died in November, 1846. Vanniman died on August 9, 1879.

Other early settlers of whom a record has been left include William Bragg, who was especially famed as a hunter; Herbert Hargrave, a noted traveler, who was always proud of the fact that on one occasion he was shown through the White House by President Andrew Johnson; Aquilla Dorsey, who at the time of his death in the '80s was the oldest resident of the township, being well past his ninetieth year. Among other settlers of ante-bellum days were David L. Reeves and Andrew D. White, 1820; Gilbert F. Bentley, 1830; Cargil Chitty, Stephen Barber and William Sheeley, 1840; Daniel Early, William Johnston, John Brakefield and William H. Burr, 1860. While these pioneers constituted only a small portion of the early settlers of the community, yet they represent the most active and influential of those who were identified with its pioneer days.

## MILLS AND OTHER INDUSTRIES.

The fact that there are no streams of sufficient size in the township is responsible for the fact that there has never been a mill within its limits operated by waterpower. There were probably a few horsepower mills in the early history of the township, but the settlers either had their hand-mills, or took their grist to the mills at Xenia, Oldtown or Port William. The first steam saw-mill made its appearance in Bowersville about 1845, and since that time there have been a number of steam-mills in the township. The steam saw-mill of 1845, erected by Joseph Smith and Christopher Hussey, was one of the old-fashioned upright saw-mills, where the sawing was done by a straight or "whip" saw, running up and down. It was the first steam-mill in the section of the country and did a big business for years. Four years after it was opened, the owners sold it to Christopher Hussey, Jr., and Elijah Hussey for two thousand two hundred dollars, this price also including thirty-two acres of timber land adjoining the mill. The new firm operated the mill at full capacity the year round and sawed an immense amount of lumber. They did a large amount of custom sawing, and also sawed considerable for the open market, much of their surplus being hauled to Xenia and other nearby towns. In 1859 the mill passed into the hands of J. C. Irvin and Andrew Jackson, who purchased the mill and three-quarters of an acre of land for two thousand one hundred dollars.

The firm of Irvin & Jackson sold the mill after operating it a short time, and during the next few years it passed through a number of hands, but in 1876 it came into possession of an owner who held and operated it for several years. This was Charles Wilson, who completely remodeled the mill, tearing out the old whip saw and installing modern machinery. He also improved the corn-cracker which previous owners had attached to the mill and this feature was heavily patronized by the farmers of the community. The mill was dismantled in the '80s.

## AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

The farmers of Jefferson township have every reason to congratulate themselves on the quality of the land which they have, and the easy manner of draining it so as to insure the best crops. There is practically no waste land in the township, the last report giving only 376 acres of waste land out of a total of 12,623 acres. The following statistics are those of March 1, 1917, and show that the township is well to the front in comparison with the other townships in the county.

The chief farm crops made the following reports: Wheat, 29,172

bushels; rye, 316 bushels; oats, 41,107 bushels; corn, 227,110 bushels; Irish potatoes, 220 bushels; timothy hay, 916 tons; clover hay, 648 tons; clover seed, 36 bushels; acres of alfalfa, 409; alfalfa hay, 930 tons; ensilage, 412 tons; peaches, 60 bushels. The township reported 32 silos. There were 9,480 acres cultivated; 1,648 acres in pasture land; 940 acres of woodland; 376 acres of waste land; total acreage of township, 12,623.

The live stock of the township showed up as follows: Horses, 860; cattle, 1,134; sheep, 668; wool clip, 160 pounds; hogs, 6,209; hogs died from cholera, 410; cholera-infected farms, 14. The chickens of the township produced 57,880 dozen eggs; the cows yielded 14,200 gallons of cream sold, 58,360 gallons of milk sold, and 36,150 pounds of home-made butter.

In order to keep up the fertility of the soil the farmers of the township bought 361,420 pounds of commercial fertilizer during the year 1916, and also plowed under 249 acres of clover sod. There was also lime used to the extent of 4,000 pounds. Incidentally, it might be mentioned that the farmers put in 740 rods of drain tile during 1916. The assessor's reports show that there were only thirteen farms rented in the township in 1916, a statement which is probably open to amendment; it is also stated that there were eleven renters working for wages.

#### BOWERSVILLE.

The village of Bowersville is ten years older than the township in which it is located, the town having been officially created in 1848, while Jefferson township did not come into existence until ten years later. The town was surveyed on April 6 and 7, 1848, by Samuel T. Owens, surveyor of Greene county, on a part of Military Survey No. 4389, the entire townsite covering a fraction less than ten acres. The site was owned by Christopher Hussey, probably the first settler in the township, and as platted contained twenty-six lots.

The additions to the original plat have substantially increased the size of the town, the various additions, the number of lots therein, the name of the proprietor of the additions and the date of the recording of the same, being indicated in the appended table:

<i>Proprietor.</i>	<i>Lots.</i>	<i>Date of Recording.</i>
Benjamin Vanniman-----	40	-----October 9, 1872
Benjamin Vanniman-----	18	-----June 20, 1873
Elias Vanniman-----	20	----November 21, 1881
E. R. Mills-----	62	-----April 29, 1913

The addition of 1881 contained the tile-mill, which was located on lots 19, 20 and 21. The 1913 addition was admitted by the town council on

April 26, 1913, and certified at that time by Frank M. Kennedy, surveyor. The sixty-two lots of 1913 lay south of the railroad, but most of them never have been included in the corporation.

#### EARLY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

The village was named after its first business man, Peter Bowermaster, who had a store in the place before it was platted and was serving as postmaster when the town plat was recorded. There were some three or four houses on the town site in 1848, and the residents of the village in that year were Bowermaster, Christopher Hussey, Benjamin Vanniman and Reason A. Bowermaster. Hussey lived about forty rods north of the site at the time.

The first lots sold in the infant village brought the proprietor from forty to sixty dollars each, and he seemed to have had a considerable sale. Several who bought did not, however, erect buildings on their lots, probably holding the same for speculative purposes. Bowermaster applied for a commission as postmaster on December 23, 1847, and on February 12, 1848, received his commission, serving continuously until his death in 1859. It is not certain whether Bowermaster or Albert Bryant opened the first store in the village, but the latter had a store in operation in a small log cabin which was later occupied by L. H. Starbuck as a residence. Merchants from various places came to the new town to try their fortunes, but most of them left without becoming burdened with wealth.

Samuel Lockhart and John White were there before the Civil War and remained a number of years. It is not profitable to follow the succession of merchants of one kind and another who vended goods of all sorts in the village. Some came only to remain a short time, while others continued in the town for a long period of years. It is recalled that I. C. Stewart was the first blacksmith, and a man by the name of Strong was the second. Reason A. Bowermaster and Lemuel Cottrell were both woodworkers. Bowermaster had a shop where he made wheels, chairs, tables, dressers, closets and any kind of furniture which one might want. Cottrell devoted most of his time to wagon-making.

The '70s saw the town on a boom, due largely to the prospects of having a railroad, a direct line from Columbus to Cincinnati. As it finally turned out, the town did get a railroad, but it never reached either Columbus or Cincinnati. It runs from Sedalia, in Madison county, to Kingman, in Clinton county, but the road nevertheless gives the town of Bowersville an outlet for its grain, and furnishes it communication with the outside world. The road was built through Bowersville in the latter part of the '70s and it is not too much to say that several of the business firms listed below came to

the town about this time as a result of the railroad reaching the town. The year of 1880 saw the following business and professional interests in the town: General stores, L. H. Starbuck, G. L. Gerard & Son, R. H. Wolfe; dry goods, D. W. Carpenter, Thomas Donaldson; hardware, G. L. Gerard & Son, L. H. Starbuck; drugs, A. F. Plummer; undertaking and furniture, Reason A. Bowermaster, D. W. Carpenter; carriage- and wagon-making, Johnson & Bentley; blacksmith, I. C. Stewart & Co.; saw-mill, C. M. Wilson, Hussey & White; attorneys, Thomas P. Browder, C. S. Perkins; physicians, J. M. Hussey, F. W. Rose. Only one of these men is in business in the town in 1918, Albert White still operating a saw-mill.

#### ELEVATORS OF BOWERSVILLE.

The history of the elevators of Bowersville makes an interesting chapter in the life of the village. The railroad of course is responsible for the coming of the elevators. As before stated, the old narrow-gauge railroad was dismantled in the fore part of the '80s and from that time until 1894 the town of Bowersville was without railroad connection with the outside world. When the standard-gauge track was laid in 1894 and the railroad resumed operation the village began to have hopes of better days coming. And they came.

The elevators now made their appearance, a bank was established, and in general the whole town took on new life. The firm of Harrison & Snyder, both men coming from Cedarville, erected the first elevator in 1894, having it ready for operation by June. They continued to operate it until the following November, when George N. Perrill and D. C. Lewis leased it. The firm of Perrill & Lewis had not had charge of it quite two months when it burned to the ground, leaving the owners with a loss of twelve hundred dollars.

On January 1, 1895, Perrill & Lewis began the construction of the second elevator in the town, and had it completed by the following May. This firm continued to operate it until 1900, when D. C. Lewis sold his interest in the business to his brother, W. H. Lewis, the firm therefore continuing as Perrill & Lewis. This latter firm remained together only until January 1, 1901, at which time the firm of George N. Perrill & Son became owners of the business. The next step in the history of this elevator came on November 1, 1903, on which date the local elevator was merged with the Miami Grain Company. This company was headed by George N. Perrill during its existence from 1903 until he became the president of the Xenia Grain Company on November 1, 1910.

The Miami Grain Company had a number of elevators under its management, but Mr. Perrill continued as manager of the one at Bowersville.

Business continued good and it seemed that the company was going to avoid the disasters that meet so many concerns of this sort, when another calamity was met. On August 2, 1906, the elevator at Bowersville for a second time was completely destroyed by fire. The loss in addition to the insurance amounted to five thousand dollars. But the company was not discouraged and immediately laid plans for the erection of a larger and still more modern elevator than the one just destroyed. The new elevator was not completed in time for the 1906 season, but was opened for the following year's harvest. The local elevator continued to be managed by George N. Perrill during all these years, the next change in management coming on November 1, 1910. At that time George N. Perrill was instrumental in organizing the Xenia Grain Company, and at the same time Foss Zortman, of the Miami Grain Company, disposed of his interests in the company to the Xenia Grain Company. Mr. Perrill became the president of the new company, a position which he still holds. Mr. Perrill continued to manage the Bowersville elevator in conjunction with his son until November 1, 1917. He had been elected county commissioner and he felt that he could not give the proper attention to the business and give the county the best service, so the company leased the elevator to D. L. Early, the manager of the other elevator of Bowersville.

The story of the other elevator in Bowersville is short. It was erected in 1895 by Hussey & White who operated it until 1897. W. H. Lewis then became the sale owner, but disposed of it three years later to S. A. Hussey, one of the original owners. Hussey operated the business until 1915, when he sold it to D. L. Early, who now manages it along with the other elevator, which, as before stated, is owned by the Xenia Grain Company.

#### CHURCHES, LODGES, SCHOOLS, BANKS, ETC.

There are three churches in the village of Bowersville: Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Protestant and Christian. The secret societies represented are the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. The village has had a school building since 1866, and today boasts of one of the finest school buildings in the state, completed in 1916. The Bowersville Bank was established in 1895 and has been a valuable asset to the community. A complete history of these various factors in the life of the village is given in separate chapters elsewhere in the volume.

#### POSTOFFICE.

Peter Bowermaster, the first postmaster, was commissioned on February 12, 1848, and held the office until his death on November 3, 1859. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1787 and had been a resident of Greene county since 1810, serving in the War of 1812 with one of the volunteer

companies organized in the county. While he was postmaster the office was on a star route running between Jamestown and Reeseville, the mail being carried between the two towns once a week on horseback—or sometimes on foot—by Christopher H. Stewart. On the death of Bowermaster, his son, Reason A., applied for the office and was granted a commission on December 12, 1859. He held it a number of years, and gave way to John Haughey shortly after the Civil War. The succession since Haughey has been as follows: Christopher H. Stewart, Samuel Lockhart, R. H. Wolf, Chester Ervin, Clayton Perkins and Ethel Christy, the present incumbent. Perkins committed suicide and Miss Christy, the daughter of Milton Christy, was appointed as his successor, and has since filled the office. She also handles a line of stationery in the postoffice room. The mail is now delivered to the local office by rural carriers from Jamestown on the north and Sabina on the south. The railroad no longer carries mail to the town, although for a number of years after it was opened in the latter part of the seventies it carried the mail.

#### BOWERSVILLE IN 1918.

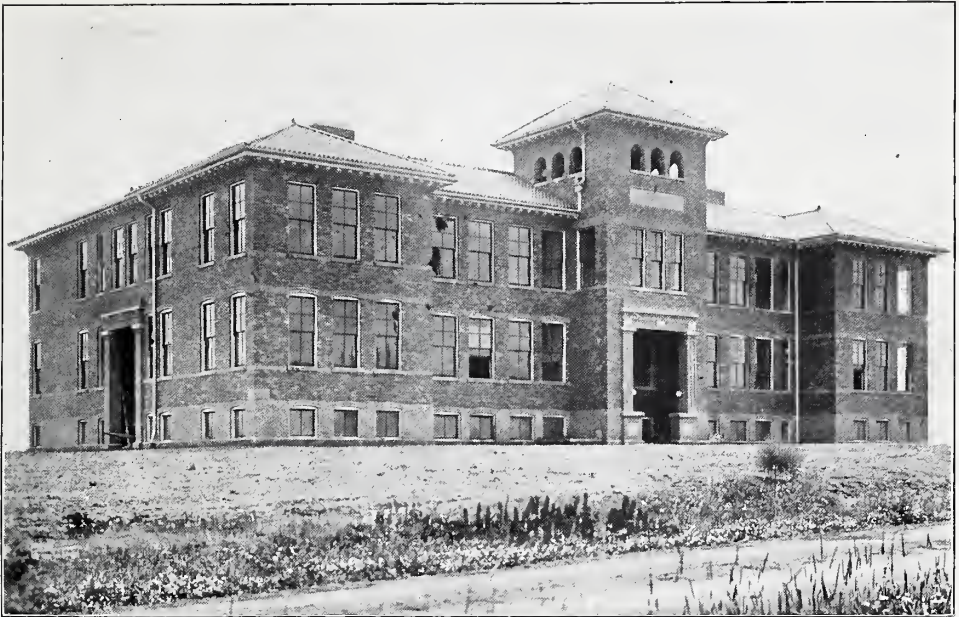
The town of Bowersville presents an attractive appearance. With an abundance of shade trees, macadamized streets, cement guttering and cement sidewalks, with neat and well-painted houses, the town is altogether a desirable place in which to live. It has electric lights, the telephone, and in other ways has kept pace with the changing years. It does not pretend to be anything more than a small town, but it does believe in being a good small town—and it is succeeding admirably.

The business and professional interests are similar to those of other towns of the same size. The oldest merchant in point of years, and in service as well, is N. J. Bowermaster, who is still in business with his son. John Gardner had a drug store for some years, but he sold out in 1916 and since then the town has been without a drug store. A bakery operated by P. M. Palmer closed down in February, 1918. The railroad service is not all that it should be. The road runs about three trains a week, hauling only freight. Most of the merchandise for the different stores of the town is hauled by auto truck from Washington Court House. The town hall is a one-story brick building, with a lock-up in the rear. The present mayor is Edward Story; Abner White is marshal, and Frank Huffman is the village constable.

#### BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY FOR 1918.

Automobile dealer, Dr. C. E. Ream; bank, Bowersville Bank, A. L. Fisher, cashier; George N. Perrill, president; barbers, White & Reed; blacksmiths, I. F. & F. A. Stewart, Charles Ellis; cabinet-maker, George Hussey;





CETRALIZED SCHOOL, BOWERSVILLE.



THE OLD SCHOOL, BOWERSVILLE.



carpenter, Edward Story & Sons; coal, lime and cement, Wilbur Ross; creamery, Delma Oliver, local manager; dentist, Doctor Teeters; dressmakers, Audrey Hollingsworth, Fannie Bowermaster; electricity, secured from Wilmington; elevators, D. C. Early, Xenia Grain Company, George N. Perrill, president; garage, F. A. Stewart; grocery, J. A. Smith, Ora McColaugh; general stores, N. J. Bowermaster & Son, Ross Store Company; hardware, L. W. Linton; hotel, Milton Christy; livery, auto service, Sherman Lewis; meat market, C. L. Thomas; millinery, Chedister Sisters; painters and decorators, Granville Jackson & Son; physician, Dr. C. E. Ream; pool room, Fred Love, O. C. Hollingsworth; postmaster, Ethel Christy; restaurant, O. C. Hollingsworth; saw-mill, Abner White; shoe cobbler, Fred Jackson; station agent, Delma Oliver; telephone exchange, branch of Springfield-Xenia Telephone Company; undertakers, Stewart & Burr; veterinary, Stephen Bowermaster; well diggers, Lewis Hargrave.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### THE TOWN OF CEDARVILLE.

The town of Cedarville has an honorable history extending back more than one hundred years, a history replete with the incidents which cluster about any community that has been in existence for a century. Here have lived hundreds and thousands of people, who have been glad to call it home; here have lived scores of business men, scores of tradesmen of many callings, and other hundreds of citizens who have trodden quiet and uneventful lives, doing their duty as they saw it from year to year.

Cedarville claims at least two men of national renown, one of whom became a man of international reputation. High on the roll of American journalists and diplomats stands the name of Whitelaw Reid, and this little town of Cedarville claims him as its own. Another illustrious son of the town, who has achieved fame as a journalist and poet, is the versatile Wilbur Dick Nesbit. Appreciative sketches of both of these men may be seen in another chapter. But these two men are only a part of the contribution of this little town to the world, albeit they have brought it more fame than anyone else.

The history of any town of this size is very much like that of thousands of other places of our country. It began in a humble way, with its rude log cabins, unkempt streets, meager business enterprises and general air of humility, but with the passing years it kept pace with the development of other towns, until today it presents the appearance of a thriving little city. In order to trace its history it is necessary to get back to its beginning.

### THE BEGINNING OF CEDARVILLE.

On the 29th day of June, 1816, there walked into the court house at Xenia two substantial citizens, Jesse Newport and William Newport by name, and immediately found their way into the office of the county recorder, Josiah Grover, where they recorded the following document:

State of Ohio }  
Greene County }

Personally came before me, Samuel Kyle, one of the associate judges for the county aforesaid, Jesse Newport and William Newport, and acknowledged the within plat of the Village of Milford to be their act and deed for the purpose therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal, this 29th day of June, 1816.

Recorded on

29th June, 1816.

JOSIAH GROVER, R. G. C.

SAMUEL KYLE, A. J.

for Greene County.

Here, then, is the first official notice that such a place as Cedarville was on the map of the world. It should be stated in the beginning that from its platting in 1816 until 1834 it was known by the name of Milford. In the latter year the town was given a postoffice and since there was another office of the same name already in the state it was necessary for the citizens to find another name for it. After careful consideration the name of Cedarville was chosen—this was sixteen years before Cedarville township came into existence—and it has since been known by that name. The banks of Massies creek were lined with cedar trees and it was this fact which was responsible for the name of Cedarville.

The original plat shows that the proprietors had a very modest opinion of the future possibilities of the town, since they only platted twenty-four lots, each eighty-two and a half by one hundred and fifty feet. Fifteen of these lots were south of Chillicothe street and nine lots north of it. It was twenty years before the town had grown to a point rendering it necessary to make an addition to the original plat. Since 1836 there have been seventeen additions to the town, which, with the name of the proprietor, the number of lots, and the date of recording, are set forth in the appended table:

Joseph Y. Alexander-----	8	-----January 23, 1836
John Orr, et al-----	32	-----June 3, 1845
Mitchell & Dell-----	18	-----May 21, 1850
Samuel Nesbit, et al-----	23	-----April 25, 1851
John Orr -----	9	-----August 9, 1851
John Orr -----	12	-----October 1, 1853
Mitchell & Dunlap-----	26	-----May 6, 1854
Jacob Miller-----	14	-----July 1, 1854
Walker, Osborn & Nesbit---	8	-----October 13, 1854
Harrison Insley -----	4	-----1854
John Orr -----	3	-----March 20, 1855
M. M. Gaunce-----	5	-----July 1, 1876
Kyle's Addition-----	17	-----May 10, 1880
S. K. Mitchell-----	8	-----April 13, 1889
James Orr and Benoni Cres- well -----	18	-----May 18, 1896
Cedarville Realty Company--	22	-----May 11, 1905
Edgmont Subdivision-----	43	-----May 13, 1916

## EARLY BUSINESS INTERESTS.

With no written records to trace the path from the beginning of the mercantile interests of Cedarville it is impossible to tell who should be credited with being the first vender of salt and sugar in the town. One authority states that Espy Mitchell was the first, another gives the honor

to John Orr, still another sets forth the claims of one Hanna. Most of the local authorities state that either Mitchell or Orr was the first, but the fact that Hanna, whoever he may have been, was there at an early date is vouchsafed by the fact that the infant village was often called "Hanna's Store" by the old pioneers. This pioneer merchant came from parts unknown and seems to have left for parts equally indefinite; no one can undertake to say at the present time when he came to Cedarville, when he left, whether he died in the place, or what became of him. His connection with the village is given here for the reason that a shadowy tradition places him here; he may be a fact, or he may be a fiction—the historian does not attempt to say.

It is difficult to trace the many business men who have come and gone in Cedarville for the past century. The following paragraphs attempt to list some of the merchants and other business and professional men who have been identified with the town during the first half century of its career. The town was hardly deserving of being so called until the railroad reached it in the fore part of the '50s. A reference to the additions to the town plat shows that the town was enjoying a boom in the '50s and it was the coming of the railroad that was responsible for it.

While there is so much uncertainty concerning the Hanna above referred to, the next two merchants of the village were there many years and left indisputable evidences of their presence. It is not certain which one of the two, John Paris or Espy Mitchell, next appeared on the scene with a store, but both were evidently located here about 1830. Paris was here in 1834 when the first postoffice was established and it was in his small log cabin that the settlers of this community received their first letters, but how long he had been here before 1834 is a matter of conjecture. He seems to have been a man of more than usual ability, a fact attested by reason of his being, at one and the same time, the village postmaster, storekeeper, shoemaker and watch and clock repairer. All of these duties were carried on in one small room. John Paris is remembered as a great temperance worker, and his was one of the very few early stores that did not retail spirituous liquors. He continued to hold the office of postmaster until the middle of the '40s, and continued to reside in the village until his death on July 22, 1853.

E. Mitchell is credited with establishing a store in the village in 1830, and he may have been the first merchant in the town. He remained in business here until his death in 1855, at which time his store was purchased by B. McClellan. The new proprietor was in the town only three years, removing his stock of goods to Kansas in 1858, where he continued in business until in the '80s.

Another merchant of the '30s was John Orr, who opened a store in the spring of 1834, and continued in business in the town until his death on January 9, 1882. Orr was one of the leaders in the life of the town for half a century. Born in South Carolina on April 6, 1795, he located in Xenia in 1831 and two years later settled in Cedarville where he lived the remainder of his days. He built the first frame house in the town in 1836, and in 1840 he built the business room which he occupied from that year until he retired from active business a short time before his death.

#### FIRST FACTORY IN THE TOWN.

The year which saw Orr opening his store, 1834, also witnessed the establishment of the first factory in the town, although it could hardly have been called a factory at that time. The industry was that of furniture-making, or cabinet-making, as it was usually called in those days, and the proprietor of this first industry was one Uriah Jeffries. He started out with nothing but a hand lathe, but in the course of time he added more machinery and introduced horsepower. When he decided to make these improvements he moved his little shop to the west side of the town, near the site of the later furniture factory. Business was good and by 1845 he felt the need of enlarging his little shop. Accordingly, he associated James Jeffries with him as partner, and the new firm at once began the erection of a new plant, the same which was in use as long as the business was maintained. Uriah Jeffries sold his interest to his partner in 1855 and tried farming for a couple of years, but in 1857 he was again back in the firm, remaining until his death in 1870. James Jeffries continued alone until 1873, when Mason, the son of Uriah Jeffries, became associated with his father's former partner. In the following year, 1874, the firm installed steam power and made other extensive improvements. In the early part of the '80s the firm was employing fifteen men and doing a good business. They had established a retail store in Xenia in 1876, which, with the one they maintained in Cedarville, furnished a good outlet for their product. The factory continued in operation until in the later '80s, when it was closed down forever.

The year 1847 brought to Cedarville one of its leading merchants for a long period of years in the person of John F. Frazer. Born in Pennsylvania in 1813, he came to Ohio when a youth and learned the tanner's trade, operating a tannery at Decatur, Ohio, from 1836 to 1847, when he located in Cedarville. He at once embarked in the mercantile business and continued to manage a store in the town from that year until he retired from active pursuits a short time before his death on August 12, 1890.

## CEDARVILLE BUSINESS INTERESTS IN 1874.

One of the Xenia newspapers published in 1874 a summary of the business interests of the various towns of Greene county and summarized Cedarville up as follows: Three dry goods stores, seven groceries, two hardware stores, one bakery, two drug stores, one tin shop, five blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, three shoe and boot shops, one steam grist-mill, two hotels, one undertaker, two barber shops, one saddlery shop, two milliners, three butcher shops, two livery stables, one saloon, five firms operating lime kilns, and three physicians. At that time there were five churches: Methodist Episcopal, Baptist, Reformed Presbyterian (Old Style), Reformed Presbyterian (New Style) and United Presbyterian. There was also a graded school with seven teachers. The names of the different business firms are not given.

## THE TOWN IN 1881.

In 1881 the business interests of the town were reported as follows: Eight groceries, four dry-goods stores, two hotels, two drug stores, three shoe shops, three blacksmith shops, one hardware store, one grain store, one butcher shop, one wagon shop, one furniture store, one bakery, one undertaker, one merchant tailor, two barber shops, two milliners, one tin shop, four physicians—and no saloon.

## INDUSTRIES OF CEDARVILLE.

Practically all the industries of Cedarville township have been located in or in close proximity to the village of Cedarville, and may be found treated in this connection. The succession of owners of the various saw- and grist-mills and other factories of one kind or another is difficult to trace, but sufficient data has been preserved concerning these early industries to present a fair picture.

The first saw-mill in the township was erected in 1811 along Massies creek in Cedarville, just below Main street, and the proprietor of this first saw-mill was no other than the man who laid out the town five years later. Newport was a good business man and seized the opportunity to locate a town around his mill site. He threw a dam across the creek to divert sufficient water to turn a water wheel, and in this way derived sufficient power to run his mill practically the year around. He built the first bridge across the creek in Cedarville and for several years it was the only bridge across the creek in the township. Newport operated the mill for several years and then disposed of it to John Townsley, who in turn sold it to Fred Beamer in 1835. Beamer had charge of it a number of years and then disposed of it to W. M. Barber, who operated it until the dam was washed out by a freshet



in 1868. The mill was later used for general storage by Barber, who was in the hardware business.

It should be mentioned in this connection that there were no fewer than four other saw-mills along Massies creek within a distance of two miles from the village of Cedarville, and all of them did a flourishing business for several years. There was so much timber to be cut, and since the mills could not operate in the middle of the winter season, they found plenty of work to do during that part of the year when they could operate. After the old Newport mill disappeared in 1868, there was a time when the village was without a mill, but a portable affair was started up and was operated for a number of years.

Isaac and Jacob McFarland opened a combined saw-mill, carding and fulling factory in 1818 along the creek, and they did an extensive business for a number of years. The brothers eventually discontinued the carding and fulling end of the business and devoted all of their attention to the sawing of lumber. This mill continued to operate until about the time of the opening of the Mexican war, 1846 or 1847.

The old mill started by the McFarlands eventually became the property of Samuel N. Tarbox and the Tarbox family has been identified with the lumber industry of the town from that day down to the present time. For many years it was the only water-power mill in the township. J. M. Tarbox, the head of the Tarbox Lumber Company, now has the only saw-mill in the township. He is ninety-six years of age.

Peter Mowdy seems to have started the first grist-mill in the township about 1836, operating a distillery in connection with the mill for a number of years. The mill passed through a number of hands and finally became the property of Samuel Charlton about the time of the opening of the Civil War. The war with its attendant high tax on whisky put nearly all the distilleries in the county out of business, and the Cedarville distilleries went along with several others. Charlton improved the mill and gained an enviable reputation for the flour he made. It was a water-power mill, as had been all the mills up to this time.

The first flour-mill to be operated by steam power was opened for business about 1855 by George Shigley and Hamilton Clemans. Its proprietors sold in 1858 and the new owners thought they saw a better opening at South Charleston, up in Clark county, and dismantled the mill and removed it to that place.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF THE LIME INDUSTRY.

W. M. Harbison began the milling business shortly after the close of the Civil War and continued until 1878, when he sold his mill to D. S. and Robert Ervin. D. S. Ervin had located at Cedarville in 1869 and began

the manufacture of lime in partnership with S. M. Foster, buying out his partner's interest in 1871. He soon built up a lime business of considerable proportions and in the latter part of the '70s was making six hundred bushels—two carloads—of lime daily. At that time he was making three times as much lime as all of the rest of the lime manufacturers of the township combined.

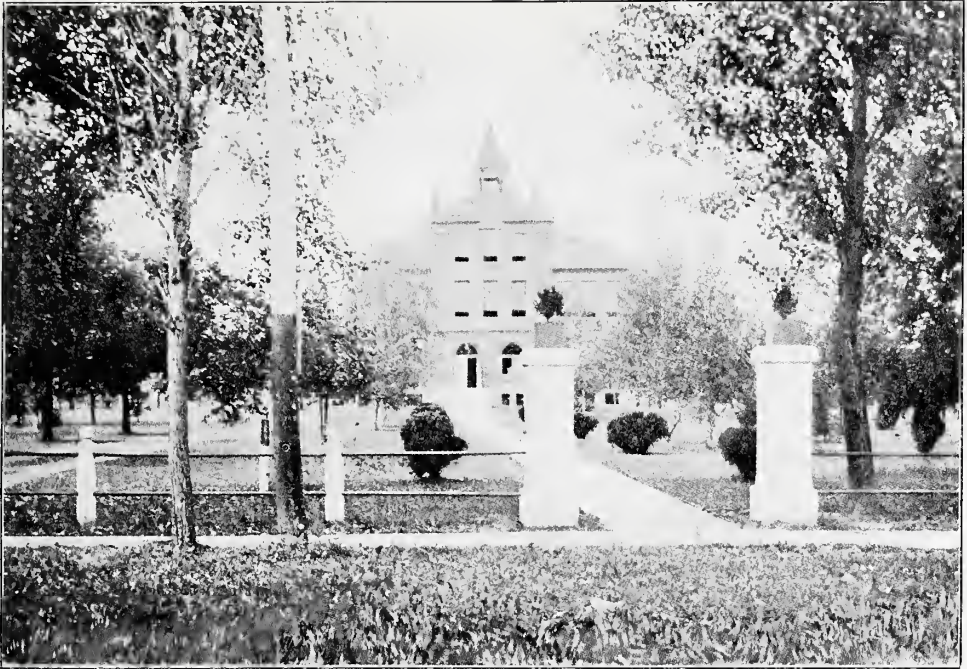
When D. S. and Robert Ervin began the milling business in 1878 they had the capital to go into the business on the most extensive scale that had thus far been attempted in the township. In 1881 they completed a grain elevator of twenty-five thousand bushels capacity. In 1879 they bought and sold thirty thousand bushels of wheat, an item of no inconsiderable importance to the farmers of the community.

D. S. Ervin was the most energetic manufacturer in the town for a number of years. His lime and flour industries have been mentioned, but he was engaged in a third industry which was a valuable acquisition to the town. This was the manufacture of brick, which he started in 1879, and in his first year he made about two hundred thousand brick. This was the first brick factory in Cedarville township and was operated until in the '90s. In this connection the one tile factory of the township should be mentioned, that of J. W. Strouse and B. W. Northup, which was opened for business in 1871. Their first drying room, ninety-two by forty feet, was burned in 1873, but was immediately replaced by another of equal size. They employed from three to six men during the working season and turned out about fifteen kilns a year, averaging about four hundred and fifty rods each. This factory closed down in the middle of the '80s.

#### OTHER INDUSTRIES GRADUALLY DEVELOPED.

The seventies seemed to be prolific of industries of all kinds in Cedarville township. The first and only fruit-evaporating plant in the county made its appearance in the township in the fall of 1879, being the property of the Tarbox brothers. They had established a cider press in 1876, and they later conceived the idea of branching out into the drying of apples, peaches and other fruits. They erected a frame building, twenty by thirty feet, in which to dry the fruit and in season employed as many as fourteen hands. During the year when apples were plentiful they often made as high as a thousand barrels of cider annually, and dried more than half a ton of apples each week. But this industry has long since handled its last apple.

One other remarkable industry remains to be considered of the early ones of the township. This was the lime industry, which, from the earliest history of the township, has been maintained on a more or less extensive



MAIN BUILDING, CEDARVILLE COLLEGE.



WHITELAW REID'S BOYHOOD HOME, CEDARVILLE.



scale. As early as the '40s the burning of lime was the most important industry in the township outside of farming, and some seven or eight families were supported by the industry. Just who was the first to begin burning lime on an extensive scale is not known, but Wesley Iliff was in the business in 1843 with an extensive plant for those days. He was in business yet in the '80s, and just before he closed down he was making about one hundred and fifty carloads of lime annually. John Orr started in the lime business in 1845 and he and his son continued to operate kilns for about half a century. His output was about the same as that of Iliff. W. G. Shroads opened a quarry and began burning lime about 1860 and continued in business until in the '80s, making about the same amount as Iliff and the Orrs. The part that D. S. Ervin took in the lime industry has already been mentioned. He was in the business longer than any of his predecessors or successors, not retiring until 1917. In that year the Cedarville Lime Company was organized and took over the quarry formerly controlled by Ervin, and it now appears that the industry will soon become more important than ever before.

The largest industry in the town is the manufacture of strawboard, an industry which has been in operation in the town for more than a quarter of a century. In 1892 the Hagar Straw Board and Paper Company was organized and in the same year a plant was erected at Cedarville which today represents an investment of at least a quarter of a million dollars. The Hagar family are the largest stockholders in the company, although George Little, of Xenia, is heavily interested in the company. The foreman in active charge of the plant is A. Z. Smith.

#### SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, LODGES, BANKS, ETC.

The first school building in the village of Cedarville was erected in 1850 by James Turnbull to be used by him for his own private school. He was very successful as a teacher, but soon thereafter he died. After a number of other teachers had tried subscription schools with indifferent success, the township took over the building and opened the first free public school in the village. In 1866 the town built a seven-room brick school house, which was in use until the fall of 1916, when the present eighty-thousand-dollar structure was ready for occupancy.

For many years after Cedarville was established in 1816 there were no churches in the little village. It appears that the Methodists were the first to erect a building, but no local historian affixes a date for its erection. Most of the early settlers were Presbyterians of one or the other of the three branches which were then in existence, but it does not appear that a Pres-

byterian church of any kind was erected in the village until in the '30s. There are now six churches in the village, each doing its part toward making the town a better place in which to live. The local historian in 1916 made the statement that the churches of this community had sent forth fifty-five preachers, and interesting to state, it is affirmed that no fewer than forty-five girls of Cedarville township have become the wives of preachers.

In former years Cedarville was not what might be called a "lodge" town, a fact due to the preponderance of the Presbyterian sentiment of the community. There is a Masonic lodge, a lodge of Knights of Pythias and a lodge of Odd Fellows.

The town has one bank, the Exchange Bank, established in 1892. The first newspaper appeared in 1877 under the name of the *Enterprise*, and since that date the village has had a paper under various names and with many and sundry editors in charge. The present paper, the *Cedarville Herald*, is in its forty-first year.

#### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Back in the days before the Civil War Cedarville boasted of a volunteer fire department that was the pride of the village. In those days there were state contests among fire companies, competitive contests of all sorts calculated to exhibit the speed and accuracy with which they could handle their apparatus. It was largely because of the desire to compete in such contests that practically every town of any size in the state organized volunteer companies in the '50s. Some of them wore gaudy uniforms, an outfit which was much more ornamental than useful, and which would never be put on to fight fires.

Cedarville took the field with one of these volunteer fire companies in 1853, the captain being James Bogle, with A. S. Frazer as chief nozzleman. This company trained with all the enthusiasm of a modern football team and went out over the state and captured prizes everywhere. They first bought a second-hand engine, which, by the way, was a hand affair, and a hose reel. With this meager outfit they were prepared to put their skill against the world, more particularly the state of Ohio.

Their first public appearance in a contest was at Springfield, Ohio, on July 4, 1854, and, so the ancient chronicler states, when they left for that place at four o'clock on the morning of that day it was so cold that they had to wear their overcoats. It must be remembered that the water was thrown then by power derived from the strong arms of the men themselves wielding the handle of their small engine. On this first public appearance they outdistanced all competitors by at least fifteen feet. The record on this, their maiden appearance has not been preserved, but later in a contest at Zanes-

ville, the Cedarville company won first prize, a silver trumpet, with a spurt of two hundred and forty feet.

It is unfortunate that some member of the company did not keep a record of their winnings. It is recalled that they appeared at Springfield, Sandusky, Tiffin, Zanesville and Dayton, at each of which places they won a silver trumpet for the best work. All of these evidences of the prowess of the company were lost when the local opera house burned in 1887. Among the brawny "fire laddies" who were members of this famous company were the Kyles, Turnbulls, Jacksons, James Bogle, A. S. Frazer, Edward Vanhorn and a number of others.

The present fire department is housed in the town hall. The equipment consists of a steam engine and hose carts, with hooks and ladders. The town is supplied with fire cisterns so disposed that water may be pumped on to any building within the corporation. In case of emergency the creek which flows through the town furnishes an ample supply of water. The firemen are volunteers and are paid for actual attendance upon fires. The town has been very fortunate in the way of fires, no serious fire having occurred since the one of October 29, 1887, which destroyed the town hall and a few adjoining buildings.

#### STREETS, SIDEWALKS, SEWERAGE, GAS, ELECTRICITY. ETC.

One of the earmarks of a progressive town is to be found in its streets and sidewalks. Cedarville possesses one paved street, Main street from the railroad station to the creek, this street having been paved with brick in 1916. There are cement sidewalks all over the town, while several of the streets are macadamized, and those not improved in this way are well graveled.

The town has no waterworks and consequently no sewerage system as yet. There is a sewage-disposal plant in connection with the new school building, but it has no connection with the town proper. This plant cost the township \$6,000 and is located about three-fourths of a mile from the school building. It is said to be one of the best plants in the state considering its cost.

The town has an abundance of natural gas, being on the main line of the Ohio Fuel Supply Company which passes through the county, furnishing Cedarville, Wilberforce and Xenia. This line was put through the county in the spring of 1905 and has been in continuous operation since that year. There are two hundred sixty-five consumers of gas in Cedarville according to the last report of the company. Electricity for the town is furnished by the Dayton Light and Power Company, the same company which furnishes Xenia, Yellow Springs, Clifton, South Charleston and a number of other towns in this section of the state. The town is well supplied with electric

street lights, this service costing the town one hundred fifty-seven dollars and fifty cents a month, or one thousand eight hundred ninety dollars per year.

#### TOWN AND TOWNSHIP HOUSE.

The one public building of Cedarville is owned jointly by the town and township, although it is usually referred to locally as the opera house. The present building was erected in 1888 and represents an outlay of sixteen thousand dollars. Most of the expense was borne by the township, the town bearing the expense of the rear part of the building, which contains the town clerk's offices, the council chamber and mayor's office, and the lock-up. The two lower rooms in front are occupied by the postoffice and township clerk, respectively, the government paying the township three hundred sixty dollars annual rental for its quarters. For several years the Exchange Bank was located in the room now used by the township clerk. The auditorium of the building is one of the largest in the county and has a seating capacity of nearly six hundred. The stage is the largest in the county and is equipped with all the necessary machinery for the presentation of modern plays.

The present building was erected immediately following the destruction by fire of the hall which stood on the same site. The building had been built in 1884 and was approximately as large as the present one, but it was destined to stand only three years, the fire of October 29, 1887, completely destroying the building, as well as a building adjoining. This was the most destructive fire the town has ever witnessed.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The public library of Cedarville is one of the many thousands of libraries of the United States which have come into existence through the generosity of Andrew Carnegie. Cedarville College united with the town and township in a joint appeal for the donation, and as a result Carnegie made a gift, contingent, as all his gifts of a similar nature are, upon the recipients of the donation guaranteeing a maintenance fund of ten per cent. of the amount given.

The township bought the lot and the title to it, as well as to the building, was subsequently vested in the college. However, the township owns the books and pays for all additions to the library. The township also maintains the library by a direct tax amounting to about fourteen hundred dollars annually, this about paying the librarian and janitor, and heating the building. The township also pays one hundred and fifty dollars a year toward the upkeep of the building and grounds.

The library was opened in 1908 with appropriate ceremonies. The



present librarian is Mrs. Lucile Gray. The township trustees appoint the library board, the present board consisting of Dr. W. R. McChesney, W. H. Barker and W. B. Stevenson.

#### THE POSTOFFICE.

The first postmaster has already been mentioned. John Paris, the first incumbent, attended to the little mail that came to the village from the time the office was established in 1834 until he retired in 1844 in favor of A. W. Osborn. The first mail was brought from Xenia once each week, and it was not until 1845 that the mail was received daily. In that year the stage-coach line was inaugurated between Columbus and Cincinnati and from that time down to the coming of the railroad in the fore part of the '50s the mail was brought to the village by the stage.

Osborn held the office until 1848, when he was succeeded by James Small for a six-month period. Colonel Torrence followed Small, but gave way in about two years to Josiah Mitchell. The next incumbent, William S. Bratton, took up the burden in Taylor's administration, but served only a short time. When President Pierce came into office in 1853, A. W. Osborn was again appointed and served during this administration. The Buchanan administration (1857-61) saw John Gibney, Jr., in charge of the local office, he, in turn, being followed in 1861 by A. W. Osborn. John G. Winter succeeded Osborn, but resigned after six months of service. This brings the history of the office up to 1867, in which year H. M. Boyd became postmaster. Boyd served two years, being followed in 1869 by H. D. Cline, a soldier of the Civil War. Cline held the office longer than any of his predecessors, remaining in charge until he was displaced by James A. McMillan in 1885. The succession since McMillan has been as follows: John McLean, James A. McMillan, Thomas N. Tarbox, Stephen C. Wright and William A. Turnbull. Mr. Turnbull has been in charge of the local office since July 1, 1914.

Rural free delivery from the Cedarville office was established in October, 1902, with three carriers, and the same three carriers are still serving. They are Oscar Satterfield, William A. Spencer and Hugh Stormont. All three use automobiles when the roads will permit. The postoffice has been located in the town hall since 1888.

#### MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

The municipal history of the town prior to 1887 is difficult to trace owing to the fact that all the village records up to that date were lost when the fire of that year destroyed the opera house. The town, however, was a part of the township until it was incorporated on January 21, 1848, and

its citizens shared with the farmers of the township the officials elected for the township. The records for the next thirty-eight years, or up to 1887, were lost in the fire of that year.

The officials for 1918 are as follows: Mayor, D. H. McFarland; clerk, J. W. Johnson; treasurer, J. C. Barber; marshal, H. A. McLean; councilmen, J. W. Ross, B. E. McFarland, J. O. Stewart, H. Z. Smith, J. E. Mitchell and E. G. Lowry.

#### CEDARVILLE IN 1918.

The Cedarville of 1918 is a typical flourishing town of fifteen hundred, with a group of wide-awake business men, with keen professional men, with substantial artisans of many trades, and with a representative number of retired farmers who have located in the town to spend the remainder of their days. Such a town may be duplicated all over the United States. It does not aspire to metropolitan honors, but contents itself with being a good country town with all the qualities which such a town should possess.

It has the finest school building in the state for a town of its size, a college of good reputation, strong churches, paved streets, electric lights and plenty of natural gas, a fine opera house and public library, two industries of importance—paper-mill and lime works—a substantial banking institution and a progressive building and loan association, a wide-awake newspaper, good stores of all kinds, good railroad service and fine highways in every direction, and finally, a spirit of communism which pervades the whole community and is responsible for the pride its fifteen hundred inhabitants take in their town.

A business directory is not ordinarily a fascinating part of a town history, but fifty years from now there will probably not be a one of the men here listed who will be in business. It will have descended to their sons or their grandsons, or passed into new hands altogether. In fact, of the men who were in business in 1880 there is not one who is in active business today. D. S. Ervin is probably the oldest business man in the town, but he practically retired in 1917, his lime and stone business now being in charge of a younger group of men.

The following list of the business and professional men of the town as they appear in April, 1918, represents about sixty different occupations. It does not include those who are classed as day laborers, and of course does not include the scores of retired farmers who now make the town their home. The list follows: Automobile dealers, Ralph Murdock, Owens & Son; automobile livery, M. C. Nagley; bakery, Jacob Siegler, Jacob E. Post; barbers, Charles Smith, William McCoy, A. C. Russell; bank, The Exchange Bank, O. L. Smith, cashier; blacksmiths, Ralph Wolford, George Barlow,

Harvey Owens; butcher, Jacob Cultice; building and loan association, Andrew Jackson, secretary; cement worker, Arthur Townsley, J. H. McMillan; cigars, Sherman Jones; churches, Reformed Presbyterian, United Presbyterian, Reformed Presbyterians (Old Style), Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal, Colored Baptist; clothing store, G. H. Hartman; coal dealers, D. S. Ervin, Andrews Brothers, Kerr & Hastings Brothers; cream stations, Houstonia Creamery Company, J. W. Long Company, West Jefferson Creamery Company; contractors, Iliff Brothers; college, Cedarville College; draymen, Harvey Myers, Fred Kennon; dry goods, J. C. Barber; dry cleaning, J. Herndon; drug store, A. E. Richards, C. N. Ridgeway; electrician, E. G. Lowry, Fred Milton; elevator, Kerr & Hastings Brothers; feed and grain, Kerr & Hastings Brothers, Andrews Brothers; furniture, J. H. McMillan, J. A. Barr; general stores, Kerr & Hastings Brothers; Robert Bird & Sons Company; groceries, B. H. Little, J. E. Post, W. W. Trout, L. H. Sullenberger, M. C. Nagley; hardware, R. M. McKee, G. A. Shrodes, C. N. Stuckey & Son; harness, Kerr & Hastings Brothers; hotel, Cedar Inn, Mrs. George Smith, proprietor; house mover, Arthur Townsley; ice dealer, D. S. Ervin; insurance, W. L. Clemans; jewelry, J. W. Johnson; junk dealer, William Bose; livery stable, George Boyd; lime and stone, Cedarville Lime & Stone Company; lodges, Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias; mayor, D. H. McFarland; meat markets, Mrs. C. C. Weimer & Son, Hayes Bates; moving pictures, Ralph Murdock; music teachers, George Siegler, Helen Oglesbee; newspaper, *Cedarville Herald*, Karlh Bull, owner and editor; notion store, Mrs. Anna Boyd; painters, Thomas N. Tarbox; paperhangers, Calvin Ewry, Foster Banks, Charles Spencer; paper mill, Hagar Strawboard & Paper Company; photographer, J. Victor Tarr; physicians, E. C. Oglesbee, Myron I. Marsh, John O. Stewart; pool rooms, George Boyd, Charles Spencer; postoffice, William A. Turnbull, postmaster; plumber, John Steele; railroad agent, Whittington; real estate, Cedarville Realty Company, W. L. Clemans, George Smith; restaurant, Mrs. George Smith, J. A. Hinton, Charles Spencer; saw-mill, Tarbox Lumber Company; schools, public, L. D. Parker, principal; seminary, theological, Reformed Presbyterian; shoe shining, Sherman Jones; shoe repairer, Edward Richards; Standard Oil Company, George Marshall, local manager; stock buyer, Frank Townsley; stone crusher, Cedarville Lime & Stone Company; telephone, Cedarville Telephone Company; telegraph operators, J. R. Wells, Charles Payne, Hugh Grindle; tile, Andrews Brothers, Kerr & Hastings Brothers; undertaker, J. H. McMillan, J. A. Barr, Nagley Brothers; veterinarian, Leo Anderson.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### THE CITY OF YELLOW SPRINGS.

The city of Yellow Springs has had an interesting and eventful history. Though it was only a collection of a few houses until the establishment of Antioch College here in 1852, yet it has a history which goes back nearly a half century prior to that year. The name of the city is suggestive of the wonderful spring of water which still gushes forth on the old Neff farm. It was this spring that attracted the Indians to the site and was also responsible for the early settling of the place by white men. This spring has been the means during the past century of attracting to the place thousands of people who came to try its healing qualities. Here came the families of some of the best-known generals of the Civil War during the days when that struggle was being waged. The composition of the waters of this celebrated spring show its main constituents to be as follows: Carbonate of lime, 92.97 per cent.; carbonate of magnesia, 2.42; iron and alumina, 3.80; silicious matter, .80.

Lewis Davis, a son of Owen Davis, the old miller, was undoubtedly the first settler on the site of the present city, but it seems that he made only a short stay in the township. The first settler is mentioned at length in the history of Miami township. The township was not organized until June 8, 1808, but the postoffice at Yellow Springs has an unbroken record from May 10, 1805, down to the present time. This fact makes it certain that there was at least a tavern or store at the place continuously for the first half of the town's history. It is not possible to trace the growth of the place year by year prior to 1852. It is stated that when the railroad reached the place in the summer of 1846 there was only the Methodist church building and two or three small houses on the site. Therefore, the history of the town from 1803 to 1846 is practically nil. But there have been a few events chronicled during these years which are worth setting forth.

#### FIRST CABIN ON THE TOWNSITE.

It seems that Thomas Fream must have succeeded Lewis Davis as the second settler on the site, or at least, Fream was some place in the immediate vicinity. He was granted a license in 1805 to conduct a tavern on the site. Unfortunately, the exact location of this tavern of Fream is not known, but the official record shows that he was succeeded as postmaster by James Miller



Yellow Spring.

Upper Falls.

Pompey's Pillar.

Lower Falls.

THE GLEN AT YELLOW SPRINGS.



on October 1, 1810. This may mean that he sold his tavern, and he probably had some sort of a store in connection, to Miller. Another authority is responsible for the statement that the *first* log cabin on the present site of Yellow Springs was built by Elisha Mills, also mentioned elsewhere, this cabin becoming a part of the Yellow Springs hotel in after years. Mills became postmaster of the village, if it may be so called, by an appointment dated July 15, 1823, continuing in the office for the next ten years.

The facts of the situation are that with no records other than those of the postoffice it is impossible to establish a sequence for the various business enterprises which were in the town prior to 1846. Some of these business men of this period were the following: Oliver Farnsworth, who started the first newspaper in 1830; Benjamin Deaver, who opened the first tanyard in 1834; Abner and Betsey Morton, the first colored people, located in the village in 1835; George Confer, who started the first cider mill in 1836, this same year bringing John Hammond, the first carpenter, into the village; the Methodists built a church in 1840 on the site of the present postoffice, their building being the first one west of the railroad which came in 1846; Israel Baker opened the first shoeshop in 1842; the year 1842 brought Frank Hafner, the first baker, and Andrew Modie, the first painter; the first school house within the present limits of the corporation was erected in 1845, the same building being later used as an Episcopal church, the building being used for school purposes in 1918; the year 1846 brought the railroad to the struggling village, and here begins a new epoch in the history of the town.

#### NEW EPOCH IN YELLOW SPRINGS.

The year 1846 may very properly be taken as a turning point in the history of Yellow Springs, for with the coming of the railroad the town took on new life and began to assume the airs of a place of some importance. In this same year William Mills, a son of Elisha, one of the first settlers, began his merchandizing career with A. B. Johnson as partner. They erected what was known as the Union House near where the railroad crossed Dayton street. The period between 1846 and 1853 was filled with building operations and by the latter year the place had assumed such an appearance of stability that William Mills had the courage to lay out three hundred acres into lots. It is an admitted fact that it was the coming of Antioch College which gave the place its sudden prosperity in the '50s. The famous educational institution was the means of attracting a number of families to the place in order that their children might avail themselves of its advantages. Scores of the professors and instructors of the college have been identified with the life of the town as well as the college. The famous col-

lege and the celebrated spring may be cited as being two factors which have had more to do with the city's prosperity as it stands today than anything else that might be enumerated.

To revert to the period between 1846 and 1853. The large store of Mills & Johnson, the so-called Union House, has already been mentioned. In the same year, 1846, Thomas Gilmore erected a frame store building east of the Mills & Johnson store, and opened a dry-goods establishment. The site of this store is now occupied by the elevator. Gilmore was succeeded in later years by his brother, William, in the same building. In 1847 James A. Brown erected a grain elevator along the tracks of the railroad and became the first grain merchant of the town. About the time the railroad was being built, Mills & Johnson made a proposition to the Methodist church to buy their lot and not only give the church a new lot in a more favorable location, but even donate sufficient money to erect a new building. The church had erected their small frame building in 1840, six years before the railroad reached the town, and as it turned out, the right-of-way of the railroad passed close by the church. This first building was located on the northeast corner of what is now Dayton and Corry streets on the site of the present postoffice. Mills & Johnson owned the lots adjoining the church and wished to have the entire block for business purposes. The church accepted the offer of lot No. 47, corner of Dayton and Winter streets, built a new structure and turned over the old building to Mills and Johnson. The new owners converted the old church building into a dwelling house, which later burned.

In 1848 Col. Joseph E. Wilson began the burning of lime in the village, thereby establishing an industry which was for many years the most important in the place. It was not until 1852 that the first flour-mill opened for business, the owner and operator being John Lannen. In 1855 Stephen Kershner opened a tinshop and in the same year a machine shop of some description announced that it was ready for business. It can not be said that Yellow Springs has ever been a manufacturing center of much importance. Outside of the lime industry, a flour-mill and a saw-mill there have been no manufacturing enterprises of any importance in the city. Allen Jobe established a wagon shop in 1865. In 1887 C. A. Little opened a saw-mill. In 1893 the lime kiln of Ervin & Company was put in operation. The following year the Little elevator was erected.

#### PLATTING OF THE TOWN.

It was the coming of the railroad in the '40s, followed by the coming of Antioch College a decade later, which was responsible for the sudden growth of the town in the fore part of the '50s. The big man in the town



in that period was William Mills, and it was his foresight and shrewdness that led to the platting of such an extensive tract for a townsite, and the subsequent extensive additions to the original site within a short time.

Mills had the idea that the college and the springs would draw people to the town by the hundreds, even by the thousands. The springs were already well known throughout the state, and also in adjoining states; the college was advertised in such a way as to make it one of the most talked of institutions in the West at the time. Horace Mann, its first president, was then the best and most widely known educator in the United States.

Therefore, taking everything into consideration, it is not to be wondered that Mills thought his town had a great future before it. He got his plans well in hand by 1853 and on November 23 of that year appeared before Samuel T. Owens, county surveyor and also a notary public, and received the following document, which is here introduced as the first official record pertaining to the now flourishing town of Yellow Springs:

I do hereby certify that at the request of William Mills, Esq., the owner and proprietor, I laid off and surveyed Forest Village or Yellow Springs, as shown on the annexed map or plan, whereof the sizes of the lots, width of the streets and alleys (with very few exceptions) are all accurately marked on said map in feet and tenths; likewise, the present magnetic bearing of said lots, streets and alleys are marked on said map. There are stones set at the places so marked and I also directed stones to be set at each of the crossings of the streets. Given under my hand and seal, this 23rd day of November, in the year of our Lord 1853.

SAMUEL T. OWENS, Surveyor G. C.

The appended map to which Owens referred shows the site to be laid out with a reckless disregard to the points of the compass. But it was a part of the general plan of Mills to avoid the regularity of the average town in the method of laying out streets. Mills was an original genius and nothing shows this more plainly than the original plat of his town. There were a total of four hundred thirty-six lots in the site, and they were of every conceivable shape and size.

#### ADDITIONS TO ORIGINAL PLAT.

It would have seemed that four hundred thirty-six lots would have been enough to have lasted for a while, but Mills was determined to have a town of some size, and he wanted it in a hurry. He advertised his lots far and wide throughout Ohio and in the adjoining states, in the East and West, in the staid papers of Boston and New York, and in the breezy sheets of Chicago and St. Louis. As a maker of towns this man Mills was the best the county has ever produced.

Mills had hardly offered his first group of lots for sale, before he decided that he needed a few hundred more. He added one hundred twelve lots

in 1855 and one hundred eighty more in 1857. It seems that Mills really did have a more definite idea of what a town should be than some of his contemporaries were willing to grant him. When he had his original three hundred fifty acres surveyed into lots, he reserved a tract of twenty acres in about the center of the tract, which, it is apparent, he wanted to preserve as a park, although he does not say so in his record of the plat. He was equally liberal in setting aside lots for churches and schools. .

It should be stated that six out of the thirty-seven streets provided by the original Mills plat were more than a mile in length. Considering the natural advantages of the site, it is not surprising that the proprietor found a ready sale for hundreds of his lots at prices ranging from one hundred fifty to two hundred dollars a lot; even prices as high as five hundred dollars were received for choice locations. Mills was a philanthropic sort of a man, the kind of a man who puts his philanthropy into practice. He hoped to build a city of ten thousand, and to this end he wanted the best citizens he could induce to settle in his town. He himself paid for the grading and graveling of the streets; he was largely responsible for the railroad going through his town instead of through Clifton; he was certainly responsible for the location of Antioch College here.

#### ADDITIONS TO ORIGINAL PLAT.

But the vision of Mills was not tempered by a sufficient knowledge of municipal affairs and the factors underlying city growth. He did not seem to realize that one can not build up a city of ten thousand anywhere he chooses. Scenery is a good and valuable asset; likewise a good college is a valuable adjunct to the growth of a small city. But the great mass of the citizens of his proposed city of ten thousand could not make a living out of the scenery, and neither could they subsist on the college. As a result his municipal dream was only about one-tenth realized, but he should nevertheless be given credit for making the town what it is today.

The additions to the original plat of 1853, with the names of the respective proprietors, number of lots and the dates of the recording of the several plats are given in the appended table:

<i>Proprietor</i>	<i>No. of Lots</i>	<i>Date</i>	
William Mills -----	112	May	2, 1855
Moses H. Grinnell -----	235	May	10, 1855
William Mills -----	180	June	4, 1857
Austin H. Dean -----	24	July	16, 1857
C. Z. Wickes -----	28	August	28, 1857

The Grinnell addition of 1855 lay north of Dayton street and east of High street, and included Oakwood Park and the Yellow Springs Hotel.

The plat of the Yellow Springs cemetery was recorded on February 3, 1864. It had been surveyed by Julius Cone in 1861, the site being laid out in two hundred sixty-one lots, but was not recorded until three years later. It lies at the northeast edge of the town.

#### INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN.

The rapid growth of the town of Yellow Springs is conclusively shown by the fact that on December 4, 1855, there was a petition carrying one hundred twenty-six signatures presented to the county commissioners asking that the town be incorporated. The commissioners fail to state what they did with this petition, but it is evident that it was not acted upon, or, if it was, the action was unfavorable. This first petition for incorporation read as follows:

The petition of William B. Huffman and 125 others was this day presented to the County Commissioners, praying that they may be organized into an incorporated village by the name of Yellow Springs, with territory as described in said petition and the plat thereunto annexed.

Whatever may have been the fate of this first petition, there was a second petition presented to the commissioners in February of the following year. Under date of February 18, 1856, the commissioners' records have the following entry:

The application of E. Stewart and others for the incorporation of the village of Yellow Springs was presented by J. J. Winans, Esq., Attorney. After a full examination of the petition and notice, the plat and affidavits accompanying the petition and plat, the Board are of the opinion that the said petition be granted and the said village of Yellow Springs be incorporated as prayed for in the said petition, and under the name, Yellow Springs, and that an order be made on the petition pursuant to the statute which is done accordingly.

#### MAYORS OF THE TOWN.

Immediately following the incorporation there was an election for the first set of officials to manage the infant municipality. The postmaster, Isaac Kershner, was elected mayor in 1856 and served a full term of one year. Following this first mayor the succession has been as follows, the date being the year of accession to the office: Andrew Shroufe, 1857; J. W. Hamilton, 1858; Hezekiah Davis, 1860; A. B. Wambaugh, 1861; J. W. Hamilton, 1862; F. D. Leonard, 1864; E. M. Birch, 1865; J. G. G. Adams, 1866; W. G. Whitehurst, 1867; J. W. Hamilton, 1867; W. W. Carr, 1878; J. W. Hamilton, 1880; J. J. Hirst, 1882; C. E. Adams, 1884; Thomas E. Stewart, 1890; J. E. Lynn, 1892; Charles Hamilton, 1894; T. B. Jobe, 1898; George H. Smith, 1902; T. B. Jobe, 1903; T. J. Ridenour, 1906; Clarences Schlientz, 1908. Mr. Schlientz resigned before the end of his term and was followed by Charles Ridgeway, who assumed the office by virtue of being the president of the council, and served out the term and was elected for the term beginning in 1910. He died before the close of his

term and was followed by J. H. Funderburg, the president of the council, who served the remainder of the term. Thomas Donley assumed the office of mayor in 1912 and was elected for a second term, serving until 1916. Dr. R. R. Richison followed for one term, giving way to Thomas Donley, the present incumbent, in January, 1918.

The complete list of city officials for 1918 is as follows: Mayor, Thomas Donley; clerk, H. G. Brown; treasurer, S. W. Cox; marshal, James Lawson; assessor, Thomas J. Ridenour; councilmen, H. R. Adams, W. A. Alexander, Joseph Curl, H. E. Dickman, Charles Figgins and P. J. Moran.

#### THE POSTOFFICE.

The early history of the postoffice at Yellow Springs is shrouded in obscurity, little being known concerning the period covering several years after it was first established other than the names and tenures of the various men who filled the office. It is certain that the town was on a star route until the coming of the first railroad in 1846, but it is not known when it began to receive daily mail. It was on the route between Springfield and Xenia for a time and also on the route running between Springfield and Dayton.

The location of the office for the first half century of its existence was either in the tavern of one of the successive postmasters, or, as it seems in some cases, it was kept in the home of the postmaster. It was usually in the store of one of the merchants of the village, the proprietor being the postmaster. It has only been within recent years that the office has been sufficiently remunerative to permit the postmaster to give it his entire time. The postmasters from the beginning of the establishment of the office in 1805 down to the present time, with the dates of their appointments, are as follow:

Thomas Fream	-----	April 1, 1805
James Miller	-----	October 1, 1810
Christopher Shroufe	-----	October 1, 1813
Joel Van Mater	-----	October 28, 1817
Elisha Mills	-----	July 15, 1823
James B. Gardiner	-----	October 14, 1823
Henry Grant	-----	November 27, 1825
Andrew Finley	-----	February 14, 1827
Ormond H. Gregory	-----	January 23, 1833
Oliver Farnsworth	-----	September 23, 1834
William Mills	-----	April 25, 1835
Samuel W. Cox	-----	July 29, 1845

Zenas M. Phelps	November 18, 1848
Elisha Mills	April 9, 1849
Isaac Kershner	April 14, 1853
Nathaniel Benedict	March 4, 1859
James E. Gross	March 12, 1861
Henry H. Burkholder	February 4, 1863
Charles H. Winter	April 6, 1865
Charles Ridgway	November 2, 1875
Mary E. McNair	February 10, 1876
I. W. Baldwin	June 25, 1885
Josephine Baldwin	November 1, 1888
Thomas B. Jobe	May 10, 1889
Odella C. Munch	March 9, 1896
J. M. Birch	July 1, 1900

C. H. Ellis followed Birch in 1909 and served until Charles Hackett came in with the Wilson administration. According to the ruling of April 1, 1917, the present incumbent can not be removed except for cause.

#### THE STORY OF THE NEFF HOUSE.

The story of the Neff House, one of the most famous buildings ever erected in Greene county, and one which has undoubtedly housed more people than any other building in the county, reveals the varied and interesting history of this building from its erection in 1840 until its final disappearance in 1892. According to the statement of Charles H. Ellis, in the Centennial volume of 1908, the building was erected in 1840 "on a bluff near the Yellow Spring and for years was crowded with visitors from all over the United States." The first building was erected by Judge William Mills, the founder of the town, and was a large structure, being two hundred fifty by sixty feet. This building was found to be insufficient to handle the crowds that came from far and near in the summer season, and consequently Judge Mills erected four cottages on the grounds adjoining the large building. Here gathered people from Columbus and Cincinnati and many adjoining states. There were four stages passing the place each day, and in the summer time they always carried passengers for the Springs. Many Southern people came driving up from Cincinnati in their own private coaches.

This was the situation when William Neff, of Cincinnati, appeared on the scene in December, 1841, and bought the buildings and a tract of ground immediately surrounding them, the consideration being fifteen thousand dollars. He also bought from Elisha Mills one hundred and sixty acres adjoining. The new owner took possession on May 11, 1842, bringing with him from Cincinnati Frank Hafner, who, it appears, was to be his chef. At

least, this same Hafner was later a baker in the town of Yellow Springs. The house was filled all during the summer and fall of 1842 and was a financial success for the new proprietor. Hafner managed it during the four or five months it was opened in the summer, Neff coming up at intervals from Cincinnati to see how things were getting along. Some time later, date not given, the building was closed to the public and Neff used it as his private residence, and died there in 1854. The property then passed into the hands of his son, William C. Neff, who decided to improve the buildings and open them again to the public as a summer resort. He leased the buildings to a Mrs. Gilbert and she had charge of the buildings during the summer seasons until they were destroyed by fire during the time of the Civil War.

The owner did not rebuild until after the war was over, but by the spring of 1870 he had a magnificent building ready to throw open to the public. It was four and a half stories high and contained three hundred rooms—more rooms than all the hotels of the county combined. The building and its furnishings represented an outlay of more than a hundred thousand dollars. For several seasons the hotel did a large business, but by the beginning of the '90s it was seen that it was not a paying investment. As a result in 1892 Neff had the building dismantled and shipped to Cincinnati—and thereby abruptly closed the story of the Neff House.

#### YELLOW SPRINGS IN 1880.

There has been preserved a complete directory of the business and professional interests of the city for the year 1880—thirty-eight years ago. This list of the business men of a generation ago will be interesting to the readers of this history of the city as it appears today, and is appended here in full:

Attorneys, S. W. Dakin, J. W. Hamilton; bakery, Dickman Brothers; barbers, William Milton, Jefferson Williams; blacksmiths, S. & R. Cox, John Pennell, Albert Thompson; boots and shoes, John Cordingly; butchers, Adam Holhut, George McCullough; cabinet-maker, William Large; carpenters, William and James Lytle; carriages, buggies, etc., T. B. Jobe; clock and watch makers, C. D. C. Hamilton, F. H. Weaver; clothing, tinware, etc., J. J. Thornton; coal, A. M. Wilder; dentist, D. T. Jones; drugs, Hirst Brothers, Charles Ridgway; dry goods, W. D. Gilmore, J. D. Hawkins, Charles Shaw, J. Van Mater; grain dealer, J. H. Little; grocery, Charles Adams; harness, Edward Thornton; lime manufacturer, Washington Shroufe; livery, Leroy Green; lumber, S. K. Mitchell & Son; merchant tailor, D. B. Low; millinery and dressmaking, Miss E. Reed, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. E. J. Price; ninety-nine-cent store, Elizabeth K. Normandie; notions, toys, etc., Mrs. R. C. Crane; nursery, W. W. Carr; physicians, H. F. Baker, M. S. Dillman, J. M. Harris, Edward I. Thorn; shoemakers, John Cannon, M.

McCann; stationery, Mrs. M. E. McNair (Mrs. McNair also was postmaster); stoves, W. J. Stephenson & Son; undertaker, Samuel McCulloch.

#### SOME INTERESTING FACTS.

A review of the business and professional men of Yellow Springs in 1880 discloses some interesting facts. While the most of the men of that year have died or have moved away, yet there are a few who are still remaining in the town and a still smaller number are following in 1918 the same vocation in which they were engaged in 1880. It is not known just who have died, and of those who have removed from the town, it is not known where they are now living, or even if they are still among the living.

Both the attorneys have long since been gathered to their fathers. The Dickman brothers are both living, but are no longer in the bakery business. The blacksmiths are all dead except Samuel Cox, who still resides in the town. The shoe dealer, John Cordingly, has passed away. George McCulloch is still using his cleaver in the town, but his contemporary, Adam Holhut, is gone. Continuing down the above list of former business men, it is noted that the following are deceased: William Large, William and James Lytle, T. B. Jobe, C. D. C. Hamilton, F. H. Weaver, J. J. Thornton, A. M. Wilder, D. T. Jones and Charles Ridgway. Of the firm of Hirst Brothers, druggists, Thomas Hirst is still living in the town and bids fair to live for many years yet.

To continue the list. The deceased include W. D. Gilmore, J. D. Hawkins, Charles Shaw, J. Van Mater, J. H. Little and Charles Adams. Edward Thornton still owns and manages his harness shop in the town, a veteran in the field of leather goods and allied lines. Washington Shroufe, Leroy Green, S. K. Mitchell, D. B. Low, John Cannon, Michael McCann and Elizabeth K. DeNormandie and Samuel McCulloch are deceased. W. W. Carr is still in the nursery business and has one of the most extensive nurseries in this section of the state. He makes a specialty of the propagating of cedar trees, shipping them by the thousands to markets in all parts of the country.

Dr. H. F. Baker is still practicing in town. Dr. Edward I. Thorn at last accounts was practicing in Salt Lake City. The whereabouts of Dr. Harris is not known. The later record of the many who have removed from the town within the past thirty-eight years is, of course, practically impossible to trace, but most of them are no doubt deceased.

#### YELLOW SPRINGS IN 1918.

It is the business and professional life of a town which gives it whatever prosperity it may have. The study of the average American town will show that it always has a few business and professional men who have been

connected with its life for a long period of years, while at the same time it will register a number who seem to come and go. Life changes from year to year; business interests naturally seek those towns where they have the greatest opportunities for development. With no factories of any consequence and with no particular claim to becoming other than a small town, the people of Yellow Springs continue the even tenor of their way without making any pretensions for their town other than being a good trading center for the immediate vicinity. A saw-mill, stone crusher and a feed-mill constitute the sole industries of any importance in the town, although it has the usual complement of tradesmen and artisans found in towns of this size. In the following summary appears a list of the business and professional men of the town as they appeared in April, 1918: Attorney, Charles Bogle; automobile dealers, Howard Corry, Edward Oster, Edward Carlisle; bakery, R. C. Adams; bank, Miami Deposit Bank; barbers, Thomas Brown, Sandy Pettiford; billiards, Oscar Day, William Glossinger, M. M. Murray; blacksmith, Edward Hackett; brick mason, Thomas Donley; canning factory, Yellow Springs Canning Company. C. F. Vandervort, manager; carriage shop, Albert Newsome; cement worker, Charles Cline; churches, Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal, Catholic, African Methodist Episcopal, Colored Christian; coal dealers, P. W. Drake, National Feed Mill Company; college, Antioch; contractor, Drake & Son; cream stations, West Jefferson Creamery Company, Houston Creamery Company; dentist, Dr. Zellers; draymen, C. A. Brewer, Earl Drake; drug store, A. H. Finley; dry cleaning, W. H. Hughes; elevators, National Feed Mill Company, Dewine Milling Company; feed and flour, Dewine Milling Company; florist, Howard Brown; furniture, Littleton & Sons; garage, see automobile dealers; general stores, W. A. Alexander, Weiss & Wead; grocery stores, D. A. Brewer, John A. Oster, Ned Straus; harness shops, Edward Thornton, ——— Weakley; hotel, Comfort Inn, Mrs. Ella Allen, proprietor; ice-cream parlor, David Fitz; livery stable, Littleton & Son; lodges, Masons, Odd Fellows, American Mechanics; mayor, Thomas A. Donley; meat shops, Jacob Diehl; milliner, Mrs. Lulu Glazier; music teacher, Clara Hirst; newspaper, *Yellow Springs News*, J. N. Wolford, editor; nursery, Wallace W. Carr; physicians, H. F. Baker, L. L. Taylor, R. R. Richison, F. C. Adams, Jessie Bogle; postmaster, Charles Hackett; public library, Mrs. Charles Carr, librarian; real estate and insurance, Charles Sheldon; restaurant, Willis Groves; saw-mill, Drake & VanKirk; school, R. O. Wead, superintendent public schools; shoe repairer, James Johnson; stock buyers, Frank Hughes, Earl Oglesbee, John Young, Thomas Dewine; stone crusher, C. C. Beam; tin-shops, H. E. Dickman, Charles Hackett; telephone, Bell system, Citizens line; undertaker, Littleton & Son; veterinary, H. L. Davisson.



## CHAPTER XXV.

### THE CITY OF JAMESTOWN.

Jamestown is now in the second century of its career as a town and is now the second largest city in Greene county. Any effort to follow its career during the past hundred years involves the historian in difficulty because of the fact that no records are available to trace its development year by year. There are certain outstanding facts that are well established, while there are other so-called facts which have been associated with the town that may or may not be true. The same may be said of every town. As the years pass by there collects a large fund of incidents which may have originally been based on actual occurrences, but in the course of time they become so distorted that they bear little resemblance to the original incident from which they started. And so it is with Jamestown. No effort is made in this history of the city to write a romance, but rather to state simply and concisely the salient facts concerned with the city's growth from May 31, 1816, when the first official notice of the place finds a record in the archives of the court house at Xenia.

The original plat of Jamestown is on file in the county recorder's office, a time-worn document showing forty-eight in-lots and nine out-lots, and bearing the date of May 31, 1816. Accompanying this century-old plat is the following statement, which, being the first authentic historical document of the now flourishing city, is here reproduced verbatim:

State of Ohio  
Greene County

Before me the subscriber, a justice of peace for the said county, personally appeared Thomas Browder who did acknowledge that he did voluntarily lay off and appropriate all the lots, Streets and Alleys in Jamestown to the north of the street leading from Xenia to Washington situated in Silver Creek Township, county and state aforesaid for the use of said town, except outlot No. 5, which he says never was intended by him to be laid out or sold as a town lot. Also personally appeared before me, Martin Mendenhall, who did acknowledge that he had laid off and appropriated all the lots, streets and alleys on the south side of the Street leading from Xenia to Washington through Jamestown in Silver Creek Township, county and state aforesaid, except the outlot No. 9 which he says never was intended to be laid off or sold as a town lot. Given under my hand and seal the first day of June, 1816.

JOHN WATSON, J. P.

I hereby certify that the outlots No. 5 and 9 on the plan of Jamestown were never laid down by consent of the proprietors for no other purpose than to complete the form and not intended for any public use. May 31, 1816.

JOSIAH GROVER, Recorder G. C.

The above record gives the names of the two proprietors, Thomas Browder and Martin Mendenhall, but is evidently not the first record of the town. It is known that it was surveyed by Thomas P. Moorman and a man by the name of Thomas, then surveyor of Clinton county, but it is not certain just when they did the work. It is probable that it was done in 1815, although no documentary evidence of the fact has been seen.

The name given to the new town was the suggestion of Browder, who had been born in Jamestown, Virginia. It will be noticed that the two proprietors contributed about equally to the townsite—one hundred and fifty acres each—Browder being the owner of the north side of the street and Mendenhall of the south side. The original plat shows Silver creek cutting across out-lot No. 9, and Middle Fork, a branch of Caesars creek, cutting across out-lots Nos. 4 and 5, the plat being laid out between the two streams. Whether these streams had anything to do with the origin of the above quoted records is not known, but it is altogether possible that they did.

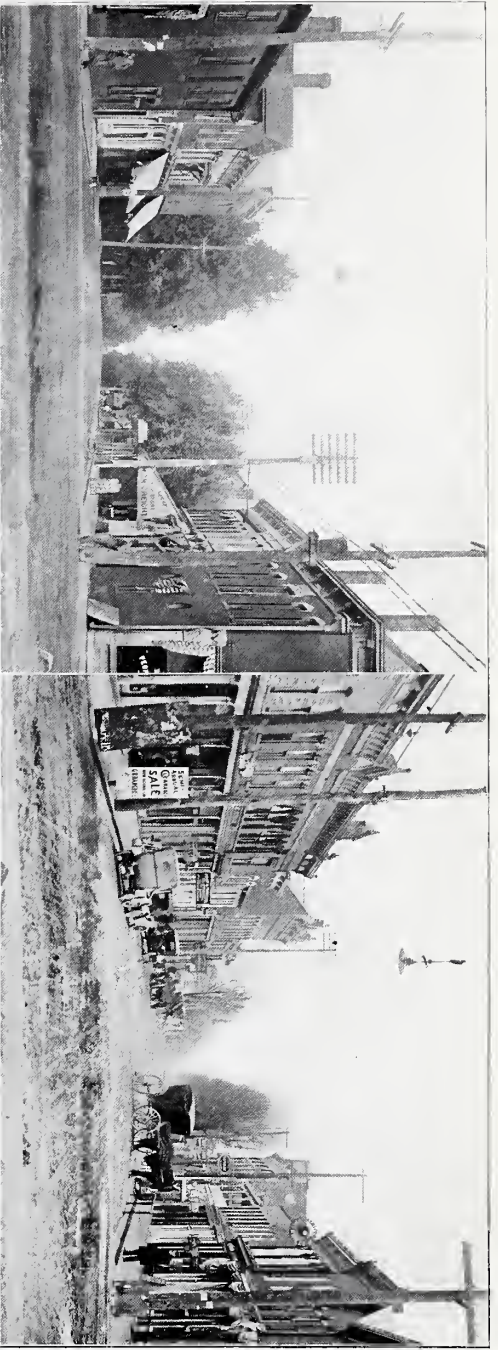
#### ADDITIONS TO THE TOWN SINCE 1816.

Since the original plat of 1816 was placed on record, there have been a number of additions made to it, a summary of which are set forth in the following table:

<i>Proprietor</i>	<i>Lots</i>	<i>Year</i>
James Hibben -----	8	July 30, 1839
John Dawson -----	8	Sept. 26, 1871
Christopher Boop & Co. ----	52	Sept. 11, 1873
James Spencer -----	33	Jan. 26, 1879
Davis & Clemens -----	9	Feb. 13, 1883
J. G. Clemens -----	9	June 29, 1896
G. W. Bishop et al. -----	20	Aug. 14, 1903
G. W. Bishop -----	11	Sept. 26, 1903
Homestead Land Co. -----	104	Spring, 1909

#### THE TOWN IN EARLY DAYS.

The best source of information concerning the early history of Jamestown is found in the reminiscences of Sylvester Strong, which are given in full in the history of Silvercreek township. Another source of interesting data, covering the town as it appeared in the '30s, was compiled in 1880 from data furnished by Mrs. Eliza McDowney at that time, Mrs. McDowney having been a continuous resident of the town from 1831. The best informed man on the history of the town now living is W. A. Paxon, an attorney of the place, who has been a resident for more than forty years. Other sources



Limestone Street, Looking North.  
Catholic Church.

VIEWS IN JAMESTOWN.

Main Street, Looking West.  
Main Street, Looking East.



of information are the official records, the files of the newspapers and numerous genealogical records which have been preserved.

As far as known there was no building on the site when it was platted, and it is impossible to determine the year in which Thomas Watson built the log cabin on the site which became the first tavern. The late historian of the county, George F. Robinson, states that Watson located in Silvercreek township in 1807 and that he opened his tavern on the site of Jamestown in 1815. He died in 1888 and is buried at Xenia. His tavern later became known as the Parker House, and was the first of a long series of taverns, inns, caravansaries and hotels which have come and gone during the past hundred years. It does not appear that either of the two proprietors of the townsite, Browder or Mendenhall, built a house in their town.

The site did not apparently appeal to the incoming settlers, and it was several years before the second house made its appearance. The best authority states that the second resident of the infant village was Dr. Mathias Winans and that he arrived on the site in 1820. He proceeded to build a house which served the triple function of a dwelling, a doctor shop and a store. Doctor Winans also bought a farm in the township, but he devoted his time to his large medical practice and for years was one of the leading physicians of the county. He died in Cincinnati, where he was located temporarily, on July 7, 1849, and is buried at Jamestown. It can truthfully be stated that he was probably the town's most influential resident in the years that he lived in it.

The third resident of whom any definite record has been preserved was Zina B. Adams, who arrived in 1824 and took charge of the tavern which had been started by Watson. The Adams family became prominent factors in the town and their descendants are still living in the city. Zina B. Adams, the first of the family to locate in the town, died in Jamestown on May 22, 1844, having been connected with the tavern during practically all of his years of residence in the place. After his death his widow married James McDowney, March 20, 1849, and the Adams tavern continued to remain under the same management, the family being connected with it for about forty years. Zina B. and Elia (Sharpe) Adams had four sons: Morgan O., Samuel, John Q. and Thomas H. Samuel died on February 8, 1854, but the other sons lived to rear families and become leaders in the town. John and Morgan were merchants. John had a store from 1860 to 1876 and then sold his business to his brother, Morgan, who sold to Thomas H. and his son, John Q. Thomas H. Adams & Son built the present Masonic building. They later sold the store to William Cole, who is still in business.

The village grew slowly during the '20s and by the end of the decade

numbered probably about ten families. Sylvester Strong states that the village early had a hatter by the name of Cultice and a tailor, one Ephraim Munthaw, but when they arrived, how long they remained, or what became of either is not known. The year 1831 forms a turning point in the history of the town as far as definite information as to what it contained at that time. As previously stated, Mrs. Eliza McDowney assisted in preparing a sketch of the town in 1880 as it appeared to her when she first saw it on her arrival in the place on February 5, 1831. Mrs. McDowney was fortunately possessed of a wonderfully retentive memory and although half a century had elapsed since she first saw the town, yet she was able to recall distinctly the names of the various families living in the place in 1831, their location in the town, and the occupations of the chief men of affairs in the place. Her description of the Jamestown of 1831 was prepared for the history of the county which appeared in 1881, and is here reproduced as it was there published:

#### JAMESTOWN IN 1831.

The town proper was composed of two roads or streets, one extending east and west from Washington C. H. to Xenia, called the Chillicothe Road; the other running north and south from Maysville to Urbana, and called the Limestone Road. At the crossing of these roads, on the southeast corner, and where a store is now kept by Charles Dingess [it must be borne in mind that Mrs. McDowney was describing this in 1880], was located the old Baker tavern, with a stable a short distance to the rear. Going south of the left-hand side of the street, lived Fielder Pendulum—the site is now owned by John G. Adams. Still further south, on the same side of the street, was a tan-yard, owned by one John Dawson, Sr., who owned a tract of land in the vicinity; his residence was located about half way between the Pendulum residence and the tannery.

Returning to the crossing of the roads, on the opposite side, we come to a small cabin owned by William Blake—located on the land just opposite to the present Adams residence. The next house, near the present location of Mrs. McDowney's residence, was owned by "Grandma" Griffy. The site where is now located Jenkins' building, corner of Main and Limestone streets, was occupied by one Adair, who conducted a wheelwright shop; his residence stood where now stands the St. Cloud Hotel. The next building on the south side of West Main street was the so-called Parker Hotel property, which still stands [1880], and is fulfilling the purpose for which it was built—a country tavern. Proceeding a short distance westward, we arrive at a small building on the corner of a cornfield, owned by Dearduff. At or near where is now the residence of Dr. C. H. Spahr, lived Martin Mendenhall, the original owner of all the above located lands.

We have now arrived at the western limits of Jamestown, and will return on the opposite side of the street. About half way between the limits and the public square lived Dr. Winans; the site of his residence is now the property of Mrs. Peter Harness. On the northwest corner was a small store kept by a man by the name of Thorp. On the west side of North Limestone street, one square from the corner, was the abode of Samuel Zortman, Sr. At some distance still further north was located the Nathaniel Hodges dwelling. North of him, on the Browder lands, a carding-machine did good service; west of this lived James Browder, the original proprietor of the north side of the town.

We again return to the place of beginning, corner of Main and Limestone streets. After proceeding a short distance, we arrive at a tan-yard on a lot owned by Samuel T. Baker. South of this, and at some distance east of the road, was located the house

of Rev. Benjamin Tressenrider, a noted Methodist preacher. Where is now located the Adams building was an unpretending little structure containing three rooms, about seventeen by twenty-two feet each. The north room was used as a dwelling by one Bently, who kept a store in the middle room. The south room was occupied by a man by the name of Hollingsworth as a store.

Upon arriving at the corner now occupied by the Wickersham Hotel, we find a vacant lot wherein a well has been dug, which is used by the general public, and the weary traveler, who, perchance may pass through Jamestown. We stop to partake of its cool and refreshing waters, and taking an eastward course, we proceed a short distance, when we reach the house of Joseph Davis, a double-frame, and the only habitation on this side of the road.

Returning on the opposite side, we reach the Adams Hotel, located on the site of the present residence of L. L. Syfers, and thus we have seen Jamestown as it was in 1831, the day Mrs. McDowney came to the youthful village as a young bride.

Summing up the town as it appeared to the young bride on that eventful day in February, 1831, when she first saw it, the following residents are enumerated as then living in or immediately adjoining it: John Dawson, Sr., Fielder Pendulum, William Baker, Zina B. Baker (the first husband of Mrs. Downey), ——— Adair, Martin Mendenhall, Dr. Mathias Winans, Samuel Zortman, Sr., Nathaniel Hodges, Thomas Browder, Samuel T. Baker, Benjamin Fessenrider, ——— Bently, Israel Hollingsworth and John Davis. William Baker was a nephew of Doctor Winans, and had located in Jamestown in 1830 or 1831 and opened a harness shop.

#### SUMMARY OF BUSINESS INTERESTS.

A number of the earliest business men of Jamestown have already been mentioned. No effort has been made in this connection to list every man who has had a business connection with the city, but to indicate some of the more prominent of the men who have contributed in some way to the growth of the city. The Adams brothers have been mentioned, as have all those who were in the village up to the '30s. The firm of Thorp & Ballard is said to have had the first store on the northwest corner of Limestone and Main streets. They were followed in the same room by James Hibben, who, in turn was succeeded in business in the same place by Thorp. The ownership of the store on this corner was evidently not conducive to the rapid accumulation of wealth if rapid changes in proprietorship may mean anything. Thorp gave way to Edward Wickersham, who soon moved out in favor of the firm of Syfers & Butler. Butler retired from the firm and Syfers took his son into partnership, and the new firm of Syfers & Son removed the old building and erected a substantial brick building on the corner.

#### REMINISCENCES OF W. A. PAXON.

Continuing the history of the business men of Jamestown, W. A. Paxon gives in his interesting way some additional facts: "It would seem that the Syfers concluded that the corner was hoodooed and they were going to

remove the hoodoo by building a new building, which it would appear, completely allayed the hoodoo. Here the Syfers began to lay the foundation of two fortunes, which have since then exceeded those of any persons who ever lived in Jamestown. L. L. Syfers quit business in 1867 to start the Farmers and Traders Bank, and was its president until the day of his death. His son, Rufus K. Syfers, went to Indianapolis and acquired a fortune estimated at near a million dollars. Thus the Syfers demonstrated that there is really no such thing as a hoodoo. The building was purchased from the Syfers by one Henry Dean, who started a grocery which afterward developed into a groggery, and again invited the return of the hoodoo, for about that time the people began to wake up to the enormity of the crime and disgrace of having the best corner of the town occupied by a rum shop. Dean was prosecuted under the newly enacted laws and ordinances until he was compelled to sell out and quit business. The old law of "quick changes" again took hold of the corner and within the space of a few years it was owned by John J. Davis, Dan Zartman, Stinson, Davis & Carpenter, and finally it became the property of G. O. Carpenter, some twenty-five years or more ago, who has occupied the store as a drug store with a good degree of success.

"The first mill in the town of Jamestown was erected some time between 1835 and 1840, and, queer as it may seem, it was a sort of a combined saw-mill and distillery. It is not recorded whether or not the proprietor used the sawdust in the manufacture of his whiskey, but sawdust has been used in later years in the making of alcohol. The mill was built and operated by the firm of Merrick & McBride, and was the first mill in the township to be operated by steam. After running it several years, the original owners disposed of it to a man by the name of Kendall, who proceeded to convert it into a flour-mill. It passed into the hands of J. W. McMillen about the time of the opening of the Civil War and he continued to operate it until in the '80s. McMillen put in extensive improvements and made it one of the best mills in the county at that time.

"The McMillens, John W. and son, William F., continued the operation of the mill for several years, and then organized a corporation which conducted the business for several years under the name of the Jamestown Milling Company. The mill was finally sold to John Jenks, who dismantled the property entirely and removed it to the present location on the south side of the railroad where it is now operated by George & Ervin Brothers. The large brick smokestack on the old mill site was an object of much interest. It stood for years, over one hundred feet high and was the tallest smoke stack in central Ohio. It could be seen for miles in every direction from Jamestown. When the mill was destroyed, the smoke stack began to decay







FRIENDS CHURCH, JAMESTOWN.



M. E. CHURCH, JAMESTOWN.



and crumble at the bottom, and was considered a menace to children and was ordered destroyed. When it was finally undermined and thrown down by a charge of dynamite the noise of its fall was distinctly heard in Xenia. The McMillens never operated the saw-mill, but sold that part of the machinery to Thomas H. Adams, who operated it in connection with a flax- or tow-mill for a few years, and sold the saw-mill part to James L. Ginn, who removed it to the north side of town, where he did quite a business sawing out ties and bridge timber for the narrow-gauge railroad. Ginn then removed his saw-mill, which was a portable mill, over to the lot south of the railroad and kept on improving and adding to its equipment until he had one of the best outfits in the county, to which he added a planing-mill and soft lumber. Ginn sold out to Adams & Thuma, being John Q. Adams, the son of Thomas H. Adams, and John Thuma, who is engaged in the lumber business at the present time at the same old stand south of the railroad. Timber became so scarce in this locality that Adams & Thuma sold the saw-mill, and now there is no saw-mill at Jamestown. When Ginn first started the saw-mill he used large bulls for oxen and had quite a number of that kind of ox-teams on the roads hauling logs and lumber every day, and hauled some immense loads with them. He bought large tracts of timber, and cut and sawed it up. When he first started, Jamestown was surrounded by a number of fine forests; but the prices Ginn offered the farmers seemed so alluring that they sold them off. In 1884 some people said that that was what caused the cyclone to visit the village, because all the timber had been cut off and some still think that was the cause of its appearance in the community."

#### CYCLONE OF APRIL 27, 1884.

The most destructive cyclone that ever passed over Greene county occurred on Sunday afternoon, April 27, 1884. It also struck the southern portion of Montgomery county, but most of its vengeance was spent on the town of Jamestown. It also struck Bellbrook, but only unroofed about fifteen houses, no persons being killed. From Bellbrook it veered slightly to the north in its eastward path and approached Jamestown down the Xenia pike. It struck the town about five o'clock in the afternoon and in a very few minutes had killed five persons, injured many others and had done nearly a quarter of a million of dollars worth of damage. It first hit the grounds of the Union Agricultural Society at the west edge of the town, and there completely demolished every building except a few small stalls. The cyclone then struck the town proper and leveled a path approximately one hundred yards wide through the town. There was scarcely a building that was not more or less damaged, while about half of the houses were completely demolished. Not a single one of the churches escaped damage, the buildings of

the Methodists, Presbyterians, Christians, and Colored Methodists being practically destroyed. Nearly one hundred families were left homeless, five people were killed outright and about forty suffered more or less serious injuries. The fury of the cyclone was practically spent on Jamestown, there being little damage done by it as it passed on east into Fayette county. As may well be imagined the day marks a turning point in the history of the town, and for many years yet to come that fateful day will be recalled as the biggest single event in the history of the city. The population of the town at that time was about nine hundred, the census of 1880 giving it a population of eight hundred and seventy-seven. Those who lost their lives in the cyclone were Mrs. Ellen Carpenter, Mrs. T. H. Adams, Katherine Boteler, Homer Paul and Lela Jenkins. The latter two were children, aged two and seven years, respectively, the other three being adults.

#### DESTRUCTIVE FIRES OF JAMESTOWN.

Jamestown has had three events in the course of its century of existence that may best be described as catastrophic. One of these was the cyclone of 1884; the other two were the destructive fires of 1878 and 1879. The three unfortunate events fell within a period of six years.

The fire which broke out at two o'clock on the morning of June 18, 1878, started in the hardware store of Stephenson & Smith on Limestone street. It was soon beyond control and by six o'clock in the morning the Adams block, J. F. Johnson's dwelling and the adjoining hotel building were burned to the ground. The total loss approximated eighteen thousand dollars, with about half that amount of insurance on the various buildings and their contents.

The second fire occurred ten months later, April 17, 1879. It broke out on the morning of that day in the store of James H. Glass, which, at the time, was used as a bakery and grocery store by Jonathan Bargdell. From this building, which was soon burned to the ground, the fire swept to the adjoining residence of Mrs. George Clark, then occupied by David McLain and his family, and Doctor Torrence. This house was a combined dwelling house, grocery and doctor's office. Most of the contents of both buildings were saved, the total loss being about four thousand dollars on the buildings. These buildings were in the same block with those destroyed ten months before, the second fire leaving nothing in the block but a blacksmith shop.

#### THE POSTOFFICE.

There is as much difference between the postoffice of Jamestown in the '20s, when it was established, and the same institution today as there is between the ox-team of that day and the modern automobile. It was not until the days of the Civil War that mail was received daily, and the town

was on a star route until the railroad reached the town in the middle of the '70s.

Shortly after Dr. Mathias Winans located in the town in 1820 he circulated a petition for the establishment of a postoffice and secured a sufficient number of prospective patrons of the proposed office to induce the postoffice department to place the town on a star route. But before the good old doctor had been commissioned postmaster he had assumed charge of such mail for the people of that vicinity as might be brought by a carrier from Xenia twice a week, his store serving as a distributing center for a radius of several miles. Xenia was eleven miles distant, but it was the nearest office to the town. When Doctor Winans was finally commissioned postmaster, the mail continued to be brought from Xenia semi-weekly, but later it came from Dayton, the town being placed on a star route running between Dayton and Chillicothe, the mail then being received but once a week.

In the latter part of the '40s the route was again changed, the star route running from Washington Court House to Bellbrook by way of Jamestown. Under this arrangement Jamestown received mail three times each week. In 1861 the town began receiving mail from Xenia daily and this arrangement obtained until the Dayton & Southeastern railroad reached the town in the middle of the '70s, since which time the town has received mail daily from each direction. The local office now receives five mails daily, four by way of the railroad and one by rural carriers from Sabina and Bowersville.

Doctor Winans remained the village postmaster for a number of years, and was followed by Peter Dingess. The latter was in turn succeeded by his son, Charles Dingess, who was in charge until the opening of Lincoln's administration in 1861. Since that year, and up to April 1, 1917, when the office was placed under civil service regulations, the office has been a political plum. J. L. Quinn became postmaster in 1861 and filled the office with entire satisfaction until he gave way in 1874 to W. J. Galvin. Galvin served until September, 1885, when J. B. Christopher took charge of the office. Since that year the succession has been as follows: Capt. John R. Crain, Dr. Charles Clark, George W. McLaughlin, who only served a few days, until he was killed, accidentally, by Edward Ginn, one of his best friends; then Capt. John R. Crain was again commissioned and served until W. O. Custis was appointed, and served until the present incumbent, Henry J. Lierance, was appointed. The location of the postoffice has been quite a "bone of contention" in the village for many years. When Johnny Quinn had it, he took it to his home, down where the Hellriggle carriage factory was located for so many years, about three blocks from the center of town. When W. J. Galvin had it, it was like a Methodist preacher's location, in several places, and folks coming to town one week would find the office in some other part of the town than it was the week before. When Charles

Dingess first had it, it was in his store, in a small room built especially for that purpose, on the lot known for over a half century as the Dingess lot and where Samuel Brown and Arch McFarland now (1918) have built their elegant new home. Samuel T. Baker built a room especially for the office on East Main street, now occupied by W. G. Watson's tailor shop. When rural free delivery came into use, this room proved too small and it having no rear entrance, which the postoffice regulations required, the office was then moved to the opera house corner at Limestone and Xenia streets, where it was thought to be a fixture. It was soon ascertained that the law under which the opera house or city building had been built specifically provided that the building should never be used for other than village and township offices; then again, the distance from the railroad being more than four hundred feet threw the cost of carrying the mail upon the government, which was quite an item. About 1902 W. A. Paxson contracted with the government for the erection of a special building, in accordance with plans and specifications furnished by the government, to be used for a postoffice for the village, on a lease for ten years. Mr. Paxson then sold his lot, with the contract to W. O. Custis, who owned the adjoining property, and he built the present postoffice building. It is heated with a furnace and lighted by electricity, and especially well lighted in day time, and is one of the most commodious postoffice buildings in a town of this size to be found anywhere.

The office now employs two clerks in addition to the rural carriers. Rural free delivery was established in 1902 and there are now five carriers making daily trips from the office. There are no other postoffices in Silvercreek township, the establishment of rural delivery being followed by the discontinuance of the offices at New Jasper, Paintersville, Grape Grove, Luttrell and Edeville, the latter two being in Fayette county. J. O. Flax was the last postmaster at Grape Grove and George Slusher was officiating at New Jasper when the office there was discontinued.

When rural free delivery was established from the Jamestown office in 1902 there were five carriers appointed and four of them are still in the service: W. Denman Turner, Ottis Brown, Walter Shigley and Albert Glass. Mac Miller was appointed in 1902, but was killed in a railroad accident in 1917, his route now being in charge of Carl Robinson. All of the carriers but Shigley use automobiles when the roads will permit.

#### TOWN HALL.

Jamestown has a fine public building for the officials of the town and township. This building also contains a good-sized auditorium, fitted with a stage and the necessary stage equipment for producing plays, the building being usually referred to locally as the opera house.



## TOWN OFFICIALS IN 1918.

The officials of the town for the year 1918 are as follows: Albert Mercer, mayor; A. D. Walker, clerk; George H. Spahr, treasurer; Albert Zeiner, marshal; C. N. Smith, assessor; Daniel Adsit, Granville Bramlett, S. A. Brown, J. D. King, L. C. Walker and W. G. Watson, councilmen.

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY FOR 1918.

Jamestown's business directory for the year 1918 carries the following names of firms and individuals: D. E. Adsit, florist; W. E. Barnett, hardware; G. O. Carpenter, drugs; Carpenter & Frager furniture; J. G. Clark, shoemaker; W. H. Cole, department store; A. Dwyer, grain elevator; Farmers and Traders Bank; L. A. Farquahar Company, dry goods; George & Ervin Brothers Company, fuel; Glass & Son, groceries; W. F. Harper, drugs; C. G. Hatch, plumber; H. F. Heifner hotel; I. H. Hilton, grocery and bakery; Hopkins & Gerard, cigars and pool room; Jenkins & Turnbull, groceries and hardware; F. W. Jewell, groceries and bakery; W. W. Johnson, groceries; M. H. Klatt, meats; Bert Long, agricultural implements; C. C. Mauck, hotel and restaurant; Charles J. Mayo, photographer; M. T. McCreight, dry goods; J. O. McDorman, men's furnishings; A. McFarland, cigars; Lawrence Miller, blacksmith; W. A. Paxon, attorney; Peoples Bank; Perry & Thompson, clothing and furnishings; W. P. Shafer, blacksmith; Howard Shane, meats; J. S. Stryker, groceries; W. C. Thomas, hotel and restaurant; Mrs. M. F. Titus, millinery; B. B. Vandewort, nursery; J. Waddell, groceries; W. G. Watson, tailor; A. Whittington, groceries; Wilson & Baker, marble; Wickersham Hardware Company, hardware, and Zeiner Brothers, undertaking and furniture.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### THE DOOMED TOWN OF OSBORN.

The thriving town of Osborn will soon be no more. The year of 1918 will see the beginning of the end of a town which has had an interesting history since its beginning in 1851—sixty-seven years ago. There are several citizens of Bath township who were living the year it was born, and, if subsequent events turn out as they now appear scheduled, these same citizens will see the death of the same place. But this story is concerned with the life of the town as nearly as it can be traced from 1851 down to the present time. The next historian of the county may have to tell of the complete disappearance of the town, although its fate is not yet definitely decided.

The plat of the town was recorded on May 20, 1851, by its two proprietors, John Cox and Samuel Stafford, Cox owning most of the tract, which was divided into ninety-five lots, the lots being platted on either side of the recently completed Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad, which had run its first train through Bath township on January 1, 1850. The village was named in honor of E. F. Osborn, then superintendent of the railroad. The site of the original plat was in the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of section 28, township 3, range 8; the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 34, of the same township and range. The proprietors set aside a tract for the railroad, 852 by 130 feet. The total amount of land within the original plat was 42.22 acres, of which 28.4 acres belonged to Cox and 13.82 acres belonged to Stafford.

#### ADDITIONS TO ORIGINAL PLAT.

The first addition to the site was made by Cox and recorded on June 23, 1858. It included lots 96 to 109, inclusive. It is not profitable to follow the many additions in detail since that year, but they may be briefly summed up as follows:

<i>Proprietor.</i>	<i>No. of Lots.</i>	<i>Date of Record.</i>
John Cox -----	14	-----June 7, 1859
John Cox -----	12	-----May 23, 1866
Jos. Harshman & Bro.---	24	-----August 16, 1866
John Cox -----	15	-----September 6, 1867
John Cox -----	34	-----August 3, 1868
J. F. Cox -----	6	-----November 10, 1886

W. H. Cox -----	14	-----November 1, 1888
Oliver W. Cox-----	20	-----August 17, 1891
J. H. Barkman-----	12	-----August 17, 1891
Mary E. Cox -----	7	-----August 4, 1891
Oliver W. Cox-----	24	-----May 8, 1900
Mary E. Cox-----	10	----February 11, 1902
H. K. Smith-----	12	-----August 4, 1891
John J. Whaley-----	10	-----October 9, 1900
Oliver W. Cox-----	25	---November 12, 1907
S. F. Woodward-----	3	-----October 12, 1903
O. H. Neff-----	21	-----February 11, 1902

## FIRST HOUSE ON SITE OF VILLAGE.

The year the railroad was built through the township Samuel Hade-wall built the first house on the site of the future village, but it was not until the following year, 1851, that the second house appeared on the site. It was erected by Henry Huskett. About this same time the first store was opened by a man by the name of Holden, who seemed to have run a combined grocery and saloon, with the greater part of his income coming from the sale of intoxicating liquors. The first real merchant of the village was George Massey; the first tavern was opened either by George Styles, or was the joint property of Charles Russell and Henry Goode. The railroad company put up a grain elevator within the first year or two after the village was established, and somewhat later the Hostetter brothers erected a second elevator.

A distillery was opened in 1856 which was operated by water power, but it soon burned to the ground. Then a brick factory was established on the same site, also run by water power, with Samuel Stafford as owner and operator. He opened it in 1857, but the following year disposed of it to John and Joseph Harshman, the mill being usually referred to locally as Harshman's mill. The Harshmans continued to operate the mill until about the middle of the '70s, when they closed it down. Later it passed into the hands of Tranchant & Finnell, the present owners, this firm now operating two flour-mills in the town, more flour being made in Osborn than in any other town in the county. Tranchant & Finnell acquired the mill erected in 1895 by the Farmers Milling and Shipping Company.

The first cooper was James Baggot; the first blacksmith was James Vannostran; Adam Dager was the first shoemaker and the first barber, combining these two lines of business; H. S. Musser opened the first meat market. The first church was erected in 1853. Doctor Buffenbarger was the first local physician, having the field to himself until 1865, when Dr.

E. F. Searl appeared. Doctor Searl later located in Fairfield where he was practicing in 1895. Doctor Hoover located in Osborn in 1867. Doctor Powell came to the town in 1882 and bought the practice of Doctor Searl, the latter removing to Fairfield at that time.

In addition to the extensive flour-mills of the town, the next largest industry which the town has ever had was the whip factory. The Ohio Whip Company was organized in 1891, and turned out their first whip on July 4 of that year. This factory was soon doing an immense business, and had its agents in every state in the Union. At the height of their prosperity they made forty gross of whips each week. But this business, like the buggy and carriage manufacturing business, was to suffer from the introduction of the automobile. It gradually decreased its output until it was evident that it was no longer a paying business and it had practically ceased manufacturing when it burned down in 1916.

The town has also boasted of a bed-spring factory, a saw-mill, planing-mill and numerous repair shops of various kinds, but these have disappeared one by one. The large lumber company has closed out its business in the town within the last year, and nothing now remains of the many industrial enterprises except the flour-mills. The Conservancy Board seems to have decreed that the town shall be no more, and even if it does allow the town to continue its existence it is not likely that men with capital will venture to invest it in the town, owing to the uncertainty that will follow the creation of the great flood-prevention basin referred to elsewhere.

#### THE TOWN DIGS FOR GAS.

During the excitement about natural gas in the latter part of the '80s, a local stock company was organized to drill a well near the town. Drilling began on June 13, 1887, at 11:30 p. m., and at a depth of seven hundred and seven feet a good flow of gas was reached. On the following day a greatly increased flow was encountered, and the contractor in charge ran a pipe down the well and on the evening of the same day the gas was lighted—the first natural gas to burn in Greene county. It is no wonder that everyone was excited about the finding of gas; people flocked to the well that night from miles in every direction. On July 1, 1887, a gauge was attached to the well and in a short time it showed a pressure of two hundred and fifty pounds. The drilling was continued until a depth of one thousand and thirty-two feet was reached, but no gas was found below seven hundred and seven feet. The pressure gradually decreased until by October 25, 1887, it only registered forty-five pounds, and within a short time the well had to be abandoned.



NORTH RAILROAD STREET. OSBORN.  
Under the plans of the Conservation District, this town will be removed.



THE MOUND AT SPRING VALLEY.



## NEWSPAPERS OF THE TOWN.

Owing to the absence of the local newspaper files it is impossible to trace the newspaper history of the town. There is a stray reference to the existence of the *Osborn Bulletin*, a paper in operation in 1866, but it was evidently a short-lived sheet. Sometime later, the date not being known, the *Osborn Star* appeared on the newspaper horizon, but it likewise had only an abbreviated career. The *Mad River Times* made its maiden appearance on July 9, 1882, and since that year the town has always had a paper. The *Osborn Local* is a lineal descendant of the *Mad River Times*.

## POSTOFFICE.

The first postmaster of the town was George Massey, but it is not known how long he was in charge, although he had the office for several years. The succession of postmasters prior to 1885 is hard to follow, but since that year it is well defined. N. S. Bonham served from 1885 to 1889, and since that time the succession has been as follows: John A. Knisley, 1889-1893; David Hedge, 1893-1897; D. M. McConnell, 1897-1905; John A. Knisley, 1905-1914. C. Leon Barkman, the present incumbent, was commissioned on October 21, 1913, but did not take charge of the office until January 1, 1914. Rural free delivery was established in 1902 and there are now four carriers connected with the Osborn office: John R. Hadder, John A. Miller, John M. Sheets and Oliver W. Cox.

## CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND LODGES.

The town has seen the establishment of four churches: Evangelical Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal and St. Mary's Catholic church. In the way of fraternal orders, the town has been supporting the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias. There has also been a post of the Grand Army of the Republic and an organization of the Woman's Relief Corps, these two Civil War organizations having membership both in Osborn and Fairfield. The schools of the town are the equal of any town in the state for its size, the chapter on Education giving the main facts concerning the schools of the town.

## MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

The town of Osborn was incorporated in 1867, and the first meeting of the council was held on December 19 of the same year. At that time the following officials took the oath of office and were sworn into their respective positions: Solon W. Massey, mayor; Aaron Spangle, clerk; J. B. Worley, treasurer; J. B. Massey, Samuel E. Woodward, Henry S. Musser and

Casper Fisher, councilmen. At that time Solon W. Massey was the leading merchant of the town.

Massey was followed in the mayor's office in 1868 by Aaron Spangler. The town elections have often been fraught with all the excitement of a national election. The town, like all places of its size, has had its local politicians who have attempted to elect a certain set of candidates. It is not profitable to follow through the half century of political contests over local offices. It might be interesting to note some of the early mayors of the town, the following list giving a number of these officials in the order of their incumbency: Solon Massey, Aaron Spangler, M. V. Baggott, O. Judson, F. L. Wood, S. B. Light, William Stephenson, Aaron Spangler (1878-1882), J. B. Massey, C. K. Hershey, D. M. McConnell, D. W. Fortney and David Auten.

The officials for 1918 are as follows: Harry E. Frahn, mayor; J. E. Keever, clerk; R. E. Dunkel, treasurer; William A. Schneider, marshal; J. E. Keever, assessor; C. J. Butt, G. E. Bailey, H. R. Kendig, F. C. Massey, J. O. Staup and A. Stremmel, councilmen.

Doctor Hartman of Peruna fame, practiced at Osborn for some years.

#### BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY FOR APRIL, 1918.

As has been stated, the future of Osborn is very uncertain. No one seems to know in April, 1918, what is really going to become of the town. There is no question that the Conservancy Board is going to buy all the property in the town, more than three-fourths of the property holders having turned over their property to the Conservancy Board by the middle of April, 1918. The board then rents the property to the original owner, but only one month at a time, and tells the renter that he can rest assured that he may remain for a couple of years. What is then going to happen is a question that can not now be answered, but it is evident that the business of the town is going to be killed, and that most of the present citizens will locate in some other place.

For this reason, the directory of business and professional men which is herewith presented will represent the last group of business and professional men the town will ever have. Already a number of firms have left the town, the most important one being the lumber company. The list of business men as it appears on April 13, 1918, follows: Automobile dealers, J. E. Burrows, Frank Massey; attorney, Morris D. Rice; bakery, Carl Kortch; bank, Osborn National Bank; barbers, Howard Sheets, William Stremmel; blacksmiths, William Zellar, William Lansinger; coal dealers, Harry E. Frahn; dentists, C. A. Herr, L. C. Liber; drug store, C. J. Logsdon; dry goods, H. R. Kendig; elevator, H. E. Frahn; feed store, H. E.



Frahn; flour-mills, Tranchant & Finnell (two operated by water power); garage, J. E. Burrows; grocers, Elwood Dunkle, G. W. Williams, Frank Esterline; harness, Herman Rudolph; hardware, Frank C. Massey, W. B. Kauffman; hotel, W. Scott Lobaugh; implement dealers, Harry McFeely, Theodore Kauffman; jewelry, Claude Barkman; milliner, Mrs. James Heedal; newspaper, *Osborn Local*, J. A. Hardman, editor; meat market, Phillip Diehl; physicians, P. C. Marquart, T. V. Crabill; pool room and restaurants, Frank Paul, John Oster; postmaster, C. Leon Barkman, since January 1, 1914; station agent, Henry Paul; undertaker, Morris Sons, D. E. Coy; wagon maker, M. F. Stabner.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### AGRICULTURE.

The history of agriculture as it concerns Greene county is very little different from that of most of the other counties in the state. One hundred years ago the farmer did not have a single one of the labor-saving devices which may be found on every well-managed farm in Greene county today. With his crude single-shovel plow and hoe, his sickle, scythe and cradle, his flail and fanning-mill, his home-made harness and hand-made wagon, he was but poorly equipped to battle with the forests. He looked for the high and dry land, since such a thing as a tile ditch was not then dreamed of. There was no such a thing as a stump-puller; dynamite was unknown—and the obstreperous stump was left to rot in the field. In short, the meager equipment of farming implements possessed by the sturdy pioneers who first attempted to wrest a living from the soil of this county would not be considered worthy of the poorest farmers of 1918.

It would far transcend the limits of this chapter to go into detail concerning the vicissitudes of the early farmer of the county. He managed in some way or another to clear the forests with the aid of ax and fire, and to raise sufficient produce to make a comfortable living for his family. Wants were so few and the few so simple that the two cents he received for a pound of pork and the ten cents that his corn brought him loomed as big in his eyes as fifteen-cent pork and two-dollar corn at the present time. The times have changed; the people have changed; and although we sometimes think that "the good old days" were the best, and that our grandfathers and grandmothers were happier than we are today, yet we would not exchange our manner of living with all its conveniences for the life they had to live with all its inconveniences.

The soil of Greene county has been discussed in another chapter, the same chapter on the geology and topography of the county discussing the climatic conditions, drainage system and allied subjects. It is sufficient to state in this connection that nature has effected such a harmonious combination of sunshine, rainfall and soil that the farmer of Greene county can raise as fine crops of corn and wheat and oats and potatoes as any farmer in the United States, and for the same reason he can produce just as fat hogs, as sleek cattle, as fine horses and as well-bred sheep. An acre of Greene county land has produced a hundred bushels of corn and half that

many bushels of wheat; it has produced four hundred bushels of potatoes, and, for that matter, it might produce as many bushels of onions; it has produced three tons of timothy hay and six tons of alfalfa. In other words, the farmer of Greene county has every reason to congratulate himself in living in such a county. It is small wonder that the farm which cost his grandfather one hundred and twenty-five cents an acre is now worth as many dollars an acre—and there are hundreds of acres in Greene county today that could not be bought for that amount.

#### THE DAYS OF OUR GREAT-GRANDFATHERS ON THE FARM.

Let us turn back the pages of history; let us put on the old cowhide boots, the old 'coonskin cap, the "wamus," the old "galluses"; let us get out the old corncob pipe, the old shucking peg, the old dog, if you please, and saunter down the lane of grandfather's old farm. Let us look over his "clearing," or his "deadnin'," as he liked to call it, and see just what he had on his farm.

The barn was always of logs, the corncrib of rails, the fences, if he had any, of the same material. The hay was invariably stacked out; the potatoes, apples, cabbage and other food supplies for the winter were usually buried in the ground, or at least a goodly portion of them were so stored away. The few farming implements were usually homemade, or at best the handiwork of the nearest blacksmith. If he had an ax, a hoe, a shovel-plow, a wagon and a set of harness made out of bark, he was satisfied. Many of the earliest settlers did not have a wagon, and a large number of them did not even have horses. The ox was universally used and continued in use until the time of the Civil War.

Fortunately, the virgin soil was very fertile and grain had only to be planted in order to make a fairly good crop, while with a little attention it yielded abundantly. Corn was always dropped by hand and in the "new ground," a pet phrase of the pioneer, it was always cultivated in the same way. The ground was first plowed with oxen and a curious plow which is difficult to describe; a crude wooden affair, the only iron about it being the sole and point. It was what would now be called a variation of the single-shovel plow. The modern breaking plow, which is distinguished from its predecessor by having a mold board, did not come into use until a short time prior to the Civil War. They were then called "barsher" plows and were considered a wonderful invention when they first appeared in the county.

In the course of years some Yankee conceived the idea of making a plow with two shovels, and thus came about the widely used "double-shovel," which may still be seen doing duty on the farms of the county. Along

in the '70s another genius invented the cultivator, a plow for cultivating more than one row of corn at a time. This was a six-shoveled contrivance, truly a wonderful improvement over the old single shovel. Still later, a plow with twelve shovels made its appearance, but the farmer was compelled to walk behind it. Time went on, and finally some ingenious Yankee startled the American farmer by producing a plow which combined the pleasures of a buggy and plow—and the modern riding-plow was at hand. Now the farmer may be seen plowing his corn and sitting on a seat; he may even have a canopy over him, as many of them do, and actually doing a better job of plowing than his grandfather did with his old single shovel. Truly the times have changed.

#### CHANGES TIME HAS WROUGHT.

And the story which is true of the farmer and his plow may be duplicated in a dozen other implements. From the days of the sickle to the days of the scythe and cradle, from the days of the cradle to the day when McCormick invented a machine that would cut and bind the wheat at the same time—through all these days has the farmer of Greene county passed since 1803. His trusty old flail has given way to the threshing-machine; his corn-knife and shucking-peg have given way to the corn-harvester and shredder; and he may turn on his gasoline engine and shell his corn and even grind it; the same engine will pump his water and force it over the barn or over his farm; it will saw his wood, shear his sheep, clip his horses, milk his cows, churn his butter, manufacture his electric light and do a multitude of other things. And such an engine may be purchased for considerably less than a hundred dollars—about the price of a good, fat hog at the present market price. It is not necessary to go into detail to follow the successive changes which have come about in all branches of farming since the first farmer in Greene county made his appearance. There are more inventions for the use of the farmer being brought into use every year than could possibly have been dreamed of a hundred years ago. One is left to wonder what the next century will bring to the farmer; but it is safe to predict that the historian of 2018 will have to say that the farmer of 1918 must have had a hard time to make a living, considering the poor equipment he had. But this is a matter for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren to contemplate; few of the present generation will then be living.

Another interesting point to consider when discussing the farmer of a hundred years ago is concerned with the crops he raised. There are many grains, fruits, vegetables, and forage and ensilage plants which are now grown by the farmer that were totally unknown a century ago. The word alfalfa would have been as mysterious to a farmer of even fifty years ago as

the word hangar; a navy bean would have been as much a curiosity as a submersible; egg plant would have been regarded with as much suspicion as a powder plant. Our grandmother raised a few tomatoes because they were nice to look at, but they would as soon have eaten a handful of buckeyes as a dish of sliced tomatoes. In those days tomatoes were considered poisonous and were raised solely for ornament, being, for some unexplainable reason, affectionately known as "love apples"—maybe this name follows because of their supposed toxic qualities. There is not a man or woman in Greene county fifty years of age who does not remember when celery was regarded as something to be eaten very cautiously. And the story might be continued indefinitely. By actual count there are as many as forty-six different vegetables grown in the gardens of Greene county in 1918, whereas there was not one-fourth that number grown a century ago.

#### CORN.

If a sample of the corn and wheat and other farm products raised by the farmer in the ante-bellum days could be exhibited at the county fair in the fall of 1918, it would make an interesting display. Most of the corn was then known as Harness corn, a name of uncertain etymology. There was also a dent corn, eight rows to the ear, as was the Harness variety, which bore the distinctive name of "Hackleberry," or just "Hackberry," the name being roughly suggestive of the exterior of the grains. Still a third variety of corn was distinguished by its color, being sort of a rainbow mixture of white, yellow, red and blue, and appropriately known as "Calico" corn. The problem of cross pollination was not very well understood in the early days.

The best evidence points to crops of corn in the ante-bellum days of from fifty to seventy-five bushels to the acre, but the average was considerably less. In 1840 there was reported a total of 659,296 bushels, with a value of \$115,376—about seventeen cents a bushel. The acreage is not given in the census report from which these figures are taken, so it cannot be ascertained what was the yield per acre. Ten years later the corn crop had nearly doubled, the census report of 1850 returning a total of 1,219,944 bushels for the county, acreage and value not being given.

The corn crop has just doubled since 1850. The assessors' returns for May, 1917, giving the crop statistics for Greene county for 1916, report a grand total of 2,406,050 bushels of shelled corn for the year 1916. This does not include ensilage-corn or sugar-corn. There were 249 acres of ensilage-corn produced in 1916, practically all of which found its way into the 256 silos of the county with their total capacity of 6,810 tons. The sugar-corn yield is returned in tons, the year 1916 producing 461 tons from 145

acres. Practically all of the sugar-corn crop was for human consumption, a large portion of the yield being used for canning purposes.

#### WHEAT.

The story of wheat for the past hundred years in Greene county is even more interesting than that of corn. From the days when it was all sown broadcast, cut with a scythe and cradle, threshed with a flail, cleaned on the top of a hill by being winnowed with a bed sheet, ground in a crude water-power buhr-mill and made into lard biscuit—from that time down to the present may be traced one of the agricultural miracles of the century. It is a long step from the wheat cradle of a hundred years ago to the complicated machine used in the West which not only cuts the wheat, but also threshes it and rolls the sacks off on the ground just as the binder rolls off the sheaves of wheat.

The first wheat in Greene county was sown broadcast and then covered by dragging a well-arranged pile of brush over the field. The wheat usually grown in those days was known as "red chaff." The wheat acreage in the county has varied considerably, but the acreage sown does not by any means bear a uniform proportion to the amount actually harvested. The soil is not as fertile now as it was seventy-five years ago; that is, unless it is heavily fertilized. But on the whole there has been an increase in the yield per acre due to improvement by careful breeding, new varieties being produced by cross fertilization. By careful cultivation these hybrid varieties have been standardized, thereby enabling farmers to produce larger crops. The earliest wheat statistics seen for Greene county were in 1840, in which year there were 257,465 bushels produced, with a value of \$102,980, or about fifty cents per bushel. The acreage is not reported for the year. In 1850 the census reported 241,794 bushels of wheat, neither value nor acreage being given.

The wheat yield shows considerable variation from year to year, but for a quarter of a century it has not varied far from half a million bushels each year. In 1916 the county produced 646,722 bushels, but the 1917 crop reached nearer the million mark. If farmers were formerly glad to get one dollar a bushel for wheat, and ready to plant all they could if they thought they could get that much, there was every reason to plant as heavily as possible in the fall of 1917 when they were assured of at least twice that amount for every bushel they raised.

#### OATS, RYE, BARLEY AND BUCKWHEAT.

Oats has been raised practically from the beginning of the county's history. As early as 1840 the county produced 157,668 bushels, which, according to the census figures for that year, had a gross value of \$23,864,

or about fifteen cents a bushel. In 1850 the government census returned the oat and rye crop together, giving the county credit for 123,772 bushels.

Oats has been a staple crop from the earliest days, and is still grown by practically every farmer in the county. It is a grain which responds readily to commercial fertilizer and for this reason has enjoyed a good yield with little increase in the acreage sown. In 1916 the county reported 275,574 bushels, Ross township, with a yield of 53,914 bushels, leading in the amount raised.

Rye has never been extensively grown in the county for its grain, although many farmers have raised it as a forage crop. The first definite report on rye was in 1840, when 12,006 bushels with a value of \$5,000 was produced. The farmers have apparently grown about as much rye year after year as their forefathers did, if the agricultural statistics of the county are to be believed. In 1916 there were only 15,720 bushels reported, and this was above the average. Beavercreek township, with its 4,311 bushels, raised three times as much rye as any other township in the county, Xenia with 1,412 bushels ranking second in yield.

Barley has been grown even less than rye. The census report of 1840 makes no return of barley at all, while in 1850 there were only 1,373 bushels reported. For several years the farmers of the county have been growing both winter and spring barley, with the former having the largest acreage. In 1916 the winter crop produced 2,350 bushels, and the spring crop only 1,153 bushels. Xenia is the banner barley township, leading with a yield of 814 bushels.

Buckwheat was formerly grown by most of the farmers of the county, although most of them had only a small patch of it. In the early days of the county it was grown for the pancake value of the grain, but in these later days home-grown pancake flour is practically a thing of the past. In 1850 there were 2,735 bushels of buckwheat reported for the county, but this very evidently did not include the small yield of hundreds of the small patches in the county which the farmers did not think it necessary to return to the assessor. In 1916 only two townships reported buckwheat crops: Beavercreek had 62 bushels and Ross had 18 bushels. This grain is practically a thing of the past as far as the farmers of Greene county are concerned.

#### OTHER FARM AND GARDEN CROPS.

The Irish potato has been one of the most important food products in Greene county from the beginning of its history. Potatoes are a peculiar crop, some years they seem to flourish like the bay tree and bear as prolifically as the wild crabapple; other years the bugs, rot, blight, dry or wet weather, or a combination of these potato foes, will practically ruin the crop. A study

of the potato record in the county will substantiate this statement. In 1840 the yield was 19,016 bushels, with a value of \$2,300, or about twelve cents a bushel—quite a contrast with the two-dollar-a-bushel potato of 1917. In 1850 the yield amounted to 48,029 bushels, although the sweet potato was included in this total. These figures for 1840 and 1850 undoubtedly do not include all the potatoes grown in the county, since the average farmer in many cases would not return the few bushels he might raise in his garden.

It seems strange that there were fewer potatoes raised in 1916 than in 1850, but the statistics for 1916 reported only 40,022 bushels for the county. This crop was grown on 427 acres. The assessors' report in May, 1917, showed that the demand of the government for more potatoes resulted in a promised planting of 541 acres for the year 1917.

There are a few things which were grown by our forefathers in Greene county that are now rarely found. The passing of the buckwheat patch has been mentioned, but along with it has gone flax, sorghum, broom-corn and tobacco. There is no one crop of the pioneer which illustrates the march of civilization more sharply than that of flax. Until the '50s a patch of flax was just as essential to the farmer as his potato patch; in fact, in the '20s and '30s he could have better missed a potato crop than a flax crop. But now this is all changed; there is probably not a single flax seed sown in the county at the present time. Formerly there were oil-mills in the county which did a thriving business in making linseed oil, but they have all pressed their last seed. While no statistics are available to determine the amount of flax raised in the first few decades of the county, yet as late as 1850 there was reported 9,445 bushels of flax seed. There was no return of flax in 1917.

#### SORGHUM AND MAPLE PRODUCTS.

Fifty years ago the succulent sorghum was grown by the majority of the farmers of the county, but today this saccharine plant has practically disappeared. In other and earlier days there were sorghum-mills scattered over the county, but they have gradually given way to the march of civilization. The discussion of sorghum naturally recalls the product of the hard maple tree—its molasses and sugar, and so-called sugar-water "beer." In the first few decades of the county's development maple sugar was the only sweetening the pioneer had, and many families not only made enough molasses (also known as syrup or tree molasses) for their own use throughout the year, but sold sufficient quantities to make substantial additions of other necessary commodities for the family welfare. The census figures do not by any means tell the whole story of the part the maple tree played in the county's development. When the 1850 census reports only 3,245 gallons of molasses



and 53,622 pounds—more than twenty-six tons—of sugar, the tale is not all told. Much of the product of the humble maple never found its way into the census reports. Gradually, year by year, the industry has decreased in value, and while there is still some molasses and sugar produced, the production is not on anything like the scale it was in former years. The maple products of 1916 as returned to the county auditor evidently do not include all that were produced in the county. Seven of the townships reported maple trees—Cæsarscreek, 1,710; Cedarville, 421; New Jasper, 1,200; Ross, 140; Spring Valley, 1,240; Sugarcreek, 4,111; Xenia, 1,600—but only 4,801 gallons of syrup found their way into the assessors' returns, along with 114 pounds of maple sugar.

And along with the maple tree and its important part in the life of the pioneer should be mentioned the honey bee. Not to be classed exactly as a farm product, nor yet a garden product, yet the busy bee was also a no inconsiderable factor in ante-bellum days. The bee product was sufficiently important in 1850 to find a place in the government census of the county, and there is no doubt that the 9,420 pounds of honey and beeswax reported in that year was a most welcome addition to the farmer. Bee-tree hunting was one of the sports of early days, and hundreds, probably thousands, of trees have been cut down for the honey stowed away in their boles. The bee industry is not by any means gone. Ten of the twelve townships (all save Jefferson and Miami) reported stands of bees for 1916. There were a total of 166 hives, yielding a total of 269 pounds of honey. Here again it seems that all of the honey in the county was not reported.

#### TOBACCO.

Tobacco may not properly be classed as a food product, despite the fact that it has been assiduously "chewed" by a portion of the population since the first pioneer located in the county. It is said that the Indian never chewed the weed until the white man taught him, but, be that as it may, the first settlers were nearly all chewers as well as smokers of the weed. And it may be remarked in passing that hundreds of our good grandmothers whiled away the long winter evenings by the old fireplace and dozed over a corn-cob or clay pipe. Hence, as may be expected, the great majority of the pioneers had a tobacco patch for their own use; few, if any of them, raising any of it for the market. Statistics are not available to show the aggregate amount grown in the early years of the county. That the tobacco industry is not entirely gone is evidenced by the crop reports for 1916. Four townships reported as follow: Bath, 4 acres and 4,160 pounds; Beavercreek, 3 acres and 2,710 pounds; Spring Valley, 9 acres and 7,460 pounds; Sugarcreek, 46 acres and 53,910 pounds; total acreage, 62; total pounds, 68,240.

## DISTILLERIES.

Any mention of the agricultural life of the county must refer to an industry which, in former years, drew heavily on some of the crops grown in the county. Future generations will know of this particular industry only as they read about it, and for this reason a word may be said about it in this connection. One row of figures in the page of agricultural statistics of Greene county published after the federal census of 1850 is thus labeled—distilleries. This row of figures sets forth the fact that the county actually had in operation in 1850 no fewer than twenty-one distilleries, which in the course of the previous year, had produced 324,800 gallons of spirits with a market value of \$69,960. There were distilleries from the days when the first settlers located in the county, and their product furnished much of the available "hard" money then in circulation—as well as most of the cases for the local courts. The distillery as a local industry received its death blow during the Civil War, when the government put such a high tax on spirituous liquors that most of the smaller distilleries throughout the nation were compelled to discontinue. However, it did not close all of the plants in Greene county, and it was not until 1910 that the last distillery in the county ceased operations. There was also considerable beer brewed in the earlier days of the county's history, and as early as 1805 William Gordon opened a small brewery in Xenia. It is also interesting to note that the census of 1850 returned fifteen gallons of wine, but the vintner never reached the prominence that the distiller and brewer did.

## FORAGE CROPS.

The forage crops of Greene county are now a more important part of its agricultural life than ever before. There was a time when the farmer turned his hogs, and all of his live stock for that matter, loose in the woods to find their own food supply as best they could. And they could usually find plenty of it; especially did the patient pig thrive on the mast in the fall. But with the cutting off of the forests, and the gradual increase in the value of land, it was not profitable to let live stock run wild in the woods. Hundred-acre wooded tracts have disappeared, nor is it profitable to have so much untilled land when it is worth from one to two hundred dollars an acre. It is not even profitable to graze sheep extensively on land worth two hundred dollars an acre. Undoubtedly this is one reason why there were 29,529 sheep in 1850 and only 13,650 in 1917.

Hence, and for reasons above stated, there have come into use many different kinds of forage crops; as well as new ways of preparing farm products for animal food. Ingenuity has devised methods of grinding corn and wheat in order to separate the parts fit for man and beast. The mast-fed

porker of our grandfathers is now replaced by the porker fattened on "shorts." The silo has made its appearance within the past few years, a food-conserver which has proved to be an inestimable boon to the farmer. The last report for Greene county gives 256 silos in the county, and an ever increasing number are being built each year. Cedarville township leads the county in silos with a total of 61, with Miami bringing up the rear with 6. The number in each township as reported on April 1, 1917, is as follows: Bath, 9; Beaver-creek, 13; Caesarscreek, 26; Cedarville, 61; Jefferson, 32; Miami, 6; New Jasper, 21; Ross, 29; Silvercreek, 14; Spring Valley, 11; Sugarcreek, 8; Xenia, 26. These 256 silos had a total capacity of 6,810 tons. As has been stated the farmers of the county in 1916 had 249 acres of ensilage corn, all of which was raised as the direct result of the introduction of the silo.

A number of forage crops are used for ensilage. Many of the farmers of Greene county are now raising what is called ensilage corn, which is nothing more than the ordinary "field" corn sown broadcast. Sweet corn is also used to fill silos, as is alfalfa, soy beans, pea vines, English clover and rye. In fact, any kind of green forage crops may be used as ensilage. Alfalfa is a crop of the past few years, but it has already proved its value as a forage crop. In 1916 there were 2,157 acres planted to alfalfa, which produced 5,588 tons, but this tonnage does not represent the total of the three cuttings which most of the alfalfa in this latitude will stand.

#### FOOD FOR THE SOIL, .

The use of soy beans is increasing and this legume should be more extensively cultivated. It not only furnishes a valuable stock food, but, what is also very useful to the farmer, it is one of the best crops to improve the soil. No soy beans were reported for the county in 1916. Beets, turnips, rape and rye are grown to a limited extent for stock food. Hay, both clover and timothy, has been grown in the country for nearly a century. As early as 1840 the hay product was returned in the government agricultural census, Greene county in that year reporting 9,382 tons with a total value of \$57,328. In 1850 there were 15,704 tons reported, the return not indicating whether it was timothy or clover, or both combined. Timothy hay in 1916 totaled 19,026 tons; clover, 8,406 tons. The clovers, together with peas and beans, and alfalfa, of course, are being grown more each year for the beneficial effect they have on the soil. Farmers are beginning to realize more than ever before the value of the nitrogen-fixing bacteria of the legumes. In 1916 there were 3,466 acres of clover plowed under in the county.

The question of artificial fertilizers has come to the front within the past few years. The farmer has learned by sad experience that his land has to be "fed" as regularly as he feeds his cattle and hogs. The old manure

pile behind the barn is not sufficient to keep the soil in condition to produce satisfactory returns. Crop rotation partially solves the difficulty, but it will not keep all kinds of soil in shape to produce good crops. The legumes are a big factor in soil conservation, but they need assistance. For this reason, there has been developed so-called commercial fertilizers, soil foods which can be "fed" to the soil to increase its fertility. In 1916 the farmers of Greene county used 5,403,740 pounds of commercial fertilizer, and also 26 tons of lime, the total cost of which amounted to \$50,121. The liming of wet and sour soil is not a new thing, having been used by some farmers in the county since the days of the Civil War. Lime is being used to an increasing extent each year.

#### ORCHARD AND GARDEN FRUITS.

The most important crops raised by the farmers of Greene county have been treated in the foregoing paragraphs, but before taking up an analysis of the live-stock industry there are a few other crops of general interest to the farmers. Small fruits, such as berries of all kinds—raspberries, blackberries, strawberries, gooseberries, whortleberries and currants—are found in most of the gardens of the county, but there have been very few farmers who have grown more than they could use themselves. Grapes of various varieties are also found on most of the farms of the county, but, like the berries, they are for home consumption. Reference has been made to wine produced in 1850, which would indicate that there was some attention paid to the grape at that time.

Every farm has its assortment of apples, peaches, pears, cherries and plums. The apple was formerly grown in larger quantities than it is now, and the same may be said of the peach. Many of the first settlers brought apple and peach trees, or the seeds, with them when they first came to the county, and there were very few families that did not start an orchard as soon as they got settled. It is probable that the famous "Johnnie Appleseed," of Ohio and Indiana fame, passed through Greene county on some of his peregrinations, and if he did, it is safe to say that he was responsible for some of the early apple trees. Orchard products are listed in the 1850 census of the county to the value of \$25,344, although it is not known what these consisted of. Apples found their way into cider (hence into vinegar, apple-butter and "hard" cider) and also into a famous drink of our forefathers known as "applejack." In 1916 Greene county reported 47,530 bushels of apples grown on 747 acres. The chief varieties grown at the present time are the Rambo, Rhode Island Greening, Bellflower, Fall Pippin, Ben Davis, Baldwin, Northern Spy, Grimes Golden, Yellow June, Astrakan, Maiden Blush, Jonathan, Russet, Smith Cider, Winesap and Tulpehocken.

Apples are subject to many diseases and there are many insect enemies of the apple in 1918 which were totally unknown in ante-bellum days. In the early days, and until forty years ago, thousands of gallons of cider were made every year, and a number of cider-mills were found scattered over the county. Today there are few left to tell the story. In those days apple-butter was found on every table—and it was home-made—but now, if found at all, it is a feeble imitation of the brand made by our grandmothers. Many a kitchen was decorated in the olden days with festoons of dried apples and peaches, but all this is changed, very few housewives drying apples at the present time. Of course, that was before the days when our modern canned fruit had made its appearance. It might be mentioned in this connection that our grandmothers also dried corn, pumpkin, raspberries, blackberries—and even beef.

Peaches, pears, cherries, plums and quinces are found on most of the farms of the county, being largely used by farmers' wives for canning purposes and also for jellies, butters, jams, preserves, and pickles and pastry purposes. The last annual agricultural report for Greene county gives the following returns for orchard products: Peaches, 22 acres, 338 bushels; pears, 8 acres, 134 bushels; cherries, 6 acres, 84 bushels; plums, no acres, 3 bushels; other small fruit, 6 acres, 166 bushels. No separate returns are made for berries of any kind.

#### LIVE STOCK.

The growth of the live-stock industry in Greene county would make an interesting study, but the absence of available statistics makes it impossible to follow the story in detail. For at least a quarter of a century after the county was organized the use of oxen was universal, not only for plowing and doing all the hauling on the farm and to market, but the ox-team was the only team many farmers owned. Many a Greene county pioneer, whose grandson now drives his automobile to the county seat on Saturday afternoon, had nothing but his ox-team to bring him to the county seat. Sometimes, he had an ox and a horse, or a mule, hitched up together.

It would be easy to write a volume of considerable size on the live-stock industry of Greene county. The historian has found that there are farmers in Greene county who rank among the best stock raisers in the United States. There is at least one cattle breeder and one sheep raiser who have international reputations. And then there are farmers who have horses and hogs which take prizes at stock shows all over the country. Even the humble chicken has its devotees. It is not too much to say that the farmers of Greene county have carried away more prizes at the Ohio state fair than the farmers of any other county in the state. They have also exhibited at other state fairs

and at national exhibitions, winning prizes from one end of the country to the other.

One of Greene county's farmers, O. A. Bradfute, helped to organize the International Stock Show at Chicago, and for years has been winning first prizes on his cattle. The Williamsons have won more prizes with their sheep than any other breeders in the United States, and have had the satisfaction of having calls for their sheep from all parts of the world. Bryson with his horses and Foust with his hogs are two more Greene county farmers who have brought fame to the county in their respective lines. This is to mention only a very few of the well-known live-stock breeders of the county.

The following pages give in a general way the growth of the live-stock industry of the county without mentioning by name the scores of farmers who have been leaders in breeding. The biographical volume gives interesting sketches of a majority of the stockmen, and there may be seen a full account of the work they have been doing to improve the live stock of the county, state and nation. Among the breeders of the county of note who have come to the attention of the historian are the following, listed alphabetically: Andrew, Ankeney, Bradfute, Bryson, Cherry, Corry, Creswell, Cummins, Dobbins, Foust, Gerlaugh, Grinnell, Hawkins, Jobe, Kelly, Lackey, Orr, Peterson, Pollock, Turnbull, Watt and the Williamsons.

#### LIVE STOCK FOR SHOW PURPOSES.

With the beginning of the County Agricultural Society in 1833 there was more attention paid to the improvement of all kinds of live stock, but unfortunately all the first records of the society are lost, so it is impossible to tell just what action the society did take in regard to the matter. But the step taken in 1830 regarding sheep, followed by the beginning of the county fair three years later, marks a new step in the live-stock industry of the county. Whatever may have been the standing of the farmers of the county in earlier years, the fact remains that in 1918 they stand at the top in the live-stock industry in Ohio.

The statement has been frequently made, and not disputed, that Greene county produces more pure-blood, registered live stock, more varieties and of a higher class, than any other spot on the globe for its size. This is a pretty comprehensive statement, covering, as it does, the globe, but the facts seem to warrant the assumption. The live-stock breeders of the county have been exhibiting at the state fair at Columbus for more than a quarter of a century, and in some years there are as many as twenty exhibitors from the county. On more than one occasion they have won as much as two thousand dollars in prizes on their horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. There have been hundreds of first prizes won at the state fair by farmers from

Greene county, and not a few at national exhibits. In fact, it is actually true that the cash prizes won by Greene county exhibitors at the state fair total more than the combined winnings of any other three counties in the state. Many of the best stockmen have been exhibiting for years at the state fairs of other states and at live-stock shows all over the United States. Blooded live stock raised in Greene county is shipped to practically every state in the Union, and on more than one occasion it has been shipped to Europe.

One of the greatest showings the county has ever made was at the St. Louis Exposition in 1903, when five of the breeders of the county competed with the best that the whole world had to offer—and carried home one hundred and forty prizes. Of this magnificent total there were about fifty first prizes and championships, including, as they did, some of the most valuable prizes offered. The International Stock Show held at Chicago each year has seen Greene county stock exhibited, and there is not a year that some championships are not won by the local breeders. A bull from the herd of O. A. Bradfute has been champion of his class for three successive years, a record that has never been equalled by any bull, dead or alive, ancient or modern. Another Greene county bull has achieved a record almost as good. Wherever a cattleman may be found in the United States, he will have heard of Lucy's Prince and Whitehall Sultan.

Greene county is proud of the fact that one of its sons, O. A. Bradfute, was one of the nine men who helped organize the International Stock Show at Chicago, and that he has been on the board of directors of the show from the time of its establishment. The United States does not have any other county as well represented with officers and directors of the leading live-stock pedigree registry associations of America as Greene.

The county has fine herds of cattle—Jersey, Polled Jersey, Guernsey, Shorthorn, Aberdeen-Angus, Hereford, Red Poll, Polled Durham; fancy flocks of sheep—Cheviot, Cotswold, Merino, Oxford Down, Southdown, Shropshire Down, Hampshire Down, Lincoln; sturdy droves of hogs—Chester White, Duroc Jersey, Berkshire, Poland-China; unexcelled stables of horses.

#### HORSES.

The horse has been the companion of man for centuries. Shakespeare has his "King Richard" even offering to give his kingdom for a horse, and there were many pioneers who gave a quarter of a section of land for a horse, and a very ordinary beast at that. The horse accompanied some of the first settlers into the county, proof of which is found in the listers' returns for 1803. In the records of the common pleas court for 1803, under date of

August 26, there may be seen a list of the live stock of the county as returned by the listers for taxation. There were only four townships at the time, but they covered an immense amount of territory. Mad River township, for instance, included all of the present county of Champaign and a strip as wide as that county northward to the Michigan line. But here are the figures for the horses: Beaver creek township, 241; Cæsars creek township, 77; Sugar creek township, 123; Mad River township, 243; total for the county, 684. Cæsars creek reported one stallion. The horses were listed for taxation at thirty cents a head. This statement of the number of horses refutes the idea so often heard that there were so few horses in the beginning of the county's history.

The horse gradually displaced the ox, although the plodding ox was better adapted to some of the extremely heavy work that had to be done. By 1840 the number of horses had increased to 6,987, or rather this figure included both horses and mules, separate returns not being made for them. In 1850 the horses and mules had increased to 7,171. The report for 1916 gives 11,192 horses for the county.

"SLEEPY TOM," A KING OF PACERS.

Among the factors that have made Greene county famous must be mentioned "Sleepy Tom," the greatest pacer, when his chances are considered, the world ever saw. He was foaled in the hotel stable at Bellbrook in 1866. He was a stoutly bred horse, being sired by "Tom Rolph" and he by "Pocahontas"; "Tom's" dam was sired by "Sam Hazard." "Tom" was a very unpromising colt, both in gait and appearance, there being nothing about him that would even hint at the greatness which he would achieve on the track. During his early colthood and after he was broken, he led the life of a vagabond and was racked about the streets of Bellbrook as a common "plug." His dam was a natural pacer and "Tom" also showed indications of that gait, which was more obvious as he grew older; hence his owner, Isaac Dingler, began training him, but with only indifferent success. Along with his failure, the seeming end of "Tom's" career was sealed when he became stone blind, probably as a result of the strenuous work he had done during his training. He was then withdrawn from the track as worthless and was repeatedly sold and traded from hand to hand, at one time changing hands in consideration of thirty dollars and a bottle of very poor whisky. Finally he became an inmate of a livery stable in Xenia.

At that time there lived a man in Xenia by the name of Stephen Phillips, who trained some trotters and pacers in a small way, and he became acquainted with "Blind Tom," as the horse was then designated. As the story goes, in those days of the late seventies, the Cincinnati Sunday papers were brought from Dayton to Xenia by horses, and there was an intense rivalry between



the men who handled the *Enquirer* and the *Gazette* as to which would win the weekly race between the two towns. It was "nip and tuck" for a time until the *Enquirer* man hired the little blind pacer, "Tom," from the Xenia livery stable and then it became a question as to how soon the *Gazette* would arrive in town after the *Enquirer*. This was "Tom's" first victory and it eventually led to his becoming famous.

Phillips, who had known the horse for a long time, of course heard all about "Tom's" weekly exploit of winning the race from Dayton to Xenia, and it was not long before he bought the chestnut horse for one hundred and fifty dollars. Then "Tom's" new owner began giving him regular training, but for a time the results achieved were not up to expectations. Of course Phillips's friends made much fun of him and his pacer, but he said nothing. Phillips had one friend, however, who seemed to understand the possibilities in the little chestnut. This was Frank T. Stark, the train dispatcher on the Panhandle railroad at Xenia and who later became a prominent railroad man at Dayton. Phillips consulted with Stark quite frequently about the progress of "Tom" in the training, and finally early one morning the former routed the latter out and imparted to him the welcome intelligence that the pacer was at last going right and he invited Stark out to the track to see "Tom" perform.

The invitation was accepted and Stark saw "Tom" make a mile in a little better than 2:30. Stark readily saw that Phillips had the greatest pacer in the world and he advised him to strike out for places where appropriate money was to be had for that brand of pacing. Phillips took the advice and soon "Tom," whose name was changed to "Sleepy Tom," made his debut on the turf with the best. At the races held at Chicago on July 24 and 25, 1879, "Sleepy Tom" won the third, fourth and fifth mile heats in 2:16½, 2:16 and 2:12¼, for a purse of fifteen thousand dollars against "Mattie Hunter," "Rowdy Boy" and "Lucy," who were considered the greatest pacers of that year. In the last heat of this race "Tom" made the best time known in the world in any gait, and his name immediately became a household word and his fame spread throughout the world.

But this grand old pacer was doomed to a miserable end. After he had lowered the world's record, he was sold for ten thousand dollars. When he became too old to be of any value as a race horse, he drifted from one owner to another until he finally perished in a burning stable out West.

#### CATTLE.

Cattle have been found in Greene county since the day the first ox-team pulled a Conestoga into the county. The days of the ox have gone forever, but the day of the Jersey cow was never so bright as it is today. If there is any one thing the farmers of Greene county are proud of it is their ability

to produce good cattle. While they have taken prizes far and wide on horses, hogs and sheep, it is their cattle which have made them the most famous as live-stock breeders.

The first cattle to merit the name of a distinct breed were the Shorthorns. The first cattle of the county were a nondescript breed, of uncertain ancestry, and were decidedly more useful than ornamental. The first man in the county to introduce pedigreed stock of any kind is not known, and the idea that a cow's ancestry would one day be traced with more care than was bestowed on her owner's ancestry would have struck our grandfathers as absolutely ridiculous. Again, the statement must be made that the times have changed. It would seem from existing records that the sheep came in for more attention at first than the cow or horse; at least, as early as 1830 the county commissioners noted that an act of the Legislature provided that steps be taken to improve the breed of sheep in the state.

The first statistics on cattle in Greene county are found in the records of the common pleas court, dated August 26, 1803, and are the reports of the listers of that year, the first report on the live stock of the newly organized Greene county. It is presumed that the totals include all kinds of cattle, cows, calves, bulls, oxen, etc. The complete report is given by townships as follow: Beavercreek, 430; Caesarscreek, 154; Sugarcreek, 192; Mad River, 492. These cattle were listed for taxation at twelve and a half cents a head.

In 1840 there were reported a total of 14,914 cattle with a value of \$149,140, an average value of about ten dollars a head. The number had increased to 17,444 by the next decade. At this time, 1850, a return was made showing that the county had produced the previous year no less than 524,129 pounds of butter and cheese. There has not been an appreciable increase in the number of cattle raised in the county for the past sixty years. In 1916 there were reported 19,884 heads of cattle of all kinds. Xenia township, with a total of 3,097, was the leader, followed by Cedarville, with 2,298. However, there is far more milk, cream and butter being produced now than ever before. The 1916 statistics show the following: Total gallons of milk sold for family use, 576,566; gallons of milk not sold for family use, 220,088; gallons of cream sold, 251,095; total pounds of butter made in the home, 507,925.

#### THE TALE OF THE PIG.

The tale of the pig in Greene county might easily be drawn out to the length of a volume. The pig, of all the domestic animals, seems to be the butt of more jokes and more humor than falls to the lot of any other creature of the barnyard. One of the funniest stories ever written is entitled "Pigs Is Pigs," and it actually seems that the humble pig is the cause of more good-

natured remarks than all of his barnyard comrades combined. Let him explain it who will.

There are pigs and pigs and there is as much difference between the pig of a hundred years ago and his descendants of today as there is between the wild plum of the forest and the luscious damson of our garden. The pioneer pig must have been, if half of what has been said about him is true, truly a ludicrous looking creature. He was a thin, cadaverous looking specimen, constructed for speed, and produced a quality of ham and bacon entirely in keeping with his general wiry and tough appearance. With an intestinal tract only about five times his length, this ungainly creature could not fatten himself as can his descendants of today with his intestinal tract of ten times his length. He might eat as much as his descendant, but he could not get as fat, and for this very anatomical reason.

In the days before the railroad, the only way to get hogs to market was to haul them overland or drive them. Most of them were driven, and here is where his wonderful powers of locomotion came into good use. It is certain that the four-hundred-pound porker of today could not have made the long overland trip to Cincinnati with the ease that did his long-legged, long-snouted, long-tailed, long-bristled, razor-back, slab-sided brother of the '20s and '30s. This many-adjectived creature bore the name of "razor-back," "elm-peeler," "rail-splitter" (smaller specimens being called "sapling-splitters"), names which were graphically descriptive of his anatomical structure. It is said that one of these pioneer pigs could outrun the fleetest horse for a considerable distance, and that a sow with a brood was a fiercer animal to meet in the woods than a wolf.

#### DESCRIPTION OF A HOG DRIVE.

The men who bought hogs in the days before the railroad rendezvoused all of their several droves at some central station. Such a station was Xenia for many years for this whole section of the country. After they had all the hogs they thought they could manage, plans were made for the drive to Cincinnati, or wherever the destination may have been, but usually Cincinnati for the hog buyers of Greene county. There was an occasional drive to Columbus, or Dayton, or even to Baltimore—and every foot of the distance was made on foot. It is small wonder that this pig of other days was, as old settlers were wont to say, "built for speed and endurance." The following account of one of these famous hog drives was prepared by an old settler who took part in one of them, and gives a fine description of a forgotten feature of pioneer days.

It was not uncommon to see a drove of hogs driven into the public square to be weighed, preparatory to starting them on their long journey. As each porker was caught

it was thrust into a kind of leather receptacle, commonly called the harness breeching, which was suspended to steelyards. As soon as the hog was fairly in the breeching the whole was lifted from the ground, and thus one by one the drove was weighed and a minute made of each, and with a pair of shears a patch of bristles was cut from the hindquarters as evidence of the fact that the pig had been weighed. Two or three days drive made the hogs quiet enough to be driven along the highway without trouble, moving along at an average gait of eight to ten miles a day. Much difficulty was experienced in keeping together in herds the hogs bought in distant and sparsely settled neighborhoods, where they were but little handled and rarely fed. The highways, even when well opened, led through hazel brush and fallen timber, and even down to a late day were rarely fenced on both sides. Every strange sight and sound gave an alarm, and the hogs scattered in every direction, to be gathered together again at their former haunts. This difficulty was obviated, we are informed, by John Earson, an old settler who engaged in collecting hogs from distant settlements into one drove, by enticing them into a pen and then running a "stitch" through the eye lids and securing the same by a knot. Thus blinded the hogs seemed instinctively to keep the road, and once started could easily be driven by a person on horseback. Two or three days drive made them comparatively quiet and tractable, and reaching their destination a clip of the scissors or knife made all things right again. Another pioneer adds to this statement that in order to catch the hogs shelled corn was trailed from the brush into a strong rail pen having a "slip-gap." As soon as the hogs were in the pen the gap was closed, and by means of a long pole with a hook on the end, which was made to catch behind the foreshoulder of the leg, the hog was drawn to a convenient place; a strap with a slipnoose, which was placed just behind the tusches of the upper jaw, drew the animal to the desired spot, when the stitches were made without further trouble and the brute then released.

#### HOG STATISTICS.

It is fair to presume that there were a few hogs in the county in 1803 when the first listers traveled over the county and placed the horses and cattle on the tax duplicate, but since the pig was not to be taxed he was not counted. Hogs were hard to handle in a new country, and they were not very numerous in this county until after the War of 1812. The number of hogs in the county during the past hundred years shows a great variation from year to year. The cholera has been the greatest enemy of the hog, and thousands of hogs have been lost to the farmers of Greene county through this disease. When hogs were selling for from three to five cents a pound there were more of them in the county than there are today when the price is from fifteen to eighteen cents a pound. On April 1, 1917, there were 57,198 hogs reported in the county, and, as far as statistics show, if their reliability may be depended upon, this was a lighter production than the county has had for several years. In 1840 there were 26,770 hogs in the county, with a total value of \$100,000, or less than four dollars to the porker. In 1850 the number had increased to 36,994, while in the same year the federal census reported the value of slaughtered animals in the county at \$121,362. It is fair to presume that practically all of the packing done by the meat-packing plants in the county was confined to pork. Local newspapers of the decade before the Civil War speak of fifty thousand head of hogs being slaughtered in Greene county in one year, and while there were

some hogs shipped in from outside, it is more than likely that the bulk were raised in the county. The decrease in the number raised began to show up after the cholera scourge appeared in the latter '80s and fore part of the '90s. Then the dread disease came into the county, like a thief in the night, and spread death and destruction on every hand. Thousands of hogs were lost and many farmers became so discouraged that they quit raising them altogether for the market. The disease persists to the present time; in 1916 there were 7,299 hogs, valued at \$64,960, lost to the farmers from the disease.

The prevailing breeds of hogs grown in Greene county are Poland-China and Berkshire, although there are many farmers who have Chester Whites, Duroc Jerseys, Hampshires and Mulefoots. The latter breed is supposed to be immune from cholera, but it has other characteristics which keep it from being widely raised. Ed. S. Foust's great boar, "Orion Cherry King, Jr., 58113," weight 1,030 pounds, raised in this county, was crowned the world's champion Duroc boar at the national swine show at Omaha in October, 1916, and is conceded to be the greatest Duroc living.

#### SHEEP.

There is no domestic animal raised in Greene county that has a more variable history than the sheep. The pioneer family had to raise at least two things—a patch of flax and a flock of sheep; from the former came the linen, from the latter the wool, while from the combination came the linsey-woolsey. There were few families in the county that did not have a spinning-wheel, and there was probably not a woman in the county who could not take the raw wool and make it into cloth. It is equally true that there is probably not one in the county who can do the same thing today.

One of the first industries in the county was the woolen-mill. Some of the mills only carded and fulled, others gave most of their attention to weaving and spinning. The so-called Xenia factory performed all four operations, that is, it carded, fulled, spun and wove. It is a difficult matter to trace the various woolen-mills in the county, since most of them disappeared before the Civil War. More than ninety years ago—in 1826—a summary of woolen factories in the county shows nine in operation, namely: The Xenia factory, near the county seat, previously mentioned; Oldtown, carding and fulling; McFarland's factory on Massies creek, carding, fulling and spinning; Bradford's factory; Smith's factory on Beaver creek; Sayer & Wells, on Little Miami river; Laughead's factory on Yellow Springs branch; Bonner's factory near Xenia; Pelham's factory in Xenia. The last factory in operation was the Barrett factory near Spring Valley, which closed down forever in 1910.

The first statistics on sheep in 1840 show that there were more in the

county then than there are at the present time—29,529 in 1840 as opposed to 13,655 in 1916. By 1850 the number had increased to 47,898, with a reported wool clip of 112,063 pounds. The wool clip in 1840 had been 54,312 pounds with a value of \$13,000. In 1916 the county produced 25,291 pounds of wool. The high tide of the sheep industry was in 1876, and since then it has shown a steady decrease. Of course, there is a reason for this sharp decline in the number raised. It is not the cholera, for the sheep is not subject to it, nor to any other sort of an epidemic. The increase in the value of land is one contributing cause; it is not as profitable to raise sheep on one-hundred-and-fifty-dollar-an-acre land as it is on fifty-dollar land. Another factor is the sheep-killing dog, hundreds of sheep being lost from this cause every year. Nor must the tariff be excused from all blame in the matter, since there can be no question that the placing of wool on the free list a few years ago was followed by a sharp decrease in the number of sheep raised in this country.

The Merino was the first sheep brought into the county and for many years was the only breed. It has already been noted that there was an early effort to improve the breed of sheep. A record in the county commissioners' minutes under date of March 2, 1830, notes that: "It was then resolved by the commissioners of Greene county that the act to improve the breed of sheep passed January 13, 1829, be adopted and in force in said county."

It is not known what the commissioners did relative to putting the act in force, but it is significant that they were interested in the matter. Later the Delaine Merinos and Rambouillets were introduced. Still later came the various breeds which are found in the county today.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### SCHOOLS OF GREENE COUNTY.

The school history of Greene county fairly begins with its organization. From 1803 until 1851 there was no provision for a system of free public schools as we have them today. During this period most of the schooling was in the hands of those who conducted what were called subscription schools, although there was a small amount of public money available for public schools after 1838.

The first school houses were invariably log structures, devoid of any comforts, and presided over in many cases by a teacher as meagerly equipped as the schoolroom in which he held forth. That these early schools were appreciated, however, is evidenced by the fact that there were often from sixty to one hundred children enrolled under one teacher. The man who could handle such a number of children and teach them anything at all, must have been a person of unusual physical courage, if not of mental ability. But with the aid supplied by the neighboring hickory groves, this pioneer teacher succeeded in preserving discipline, and in some mysterious manner he handled his juvenile army and actually taught them the rudiments of "readin', 'ritin' and 'rithmetic."

In the following pages may be found a brief summary of the schools of the various townships of the county, together with an extended discussion of the Xenia city schools. Prior to taking up the discussion of the separate township schools, a word should be said about the general system of the schools of the county as they are organized today.

The constitution of 1912 made some very radical changes in the Ohio school system, which, with subsequent statutory changes, has practically revolutionized the educational system of the state. The office of county superintendent of schools was created, the first incumbent of this office in Greene county, F. M. Reynolds, assuming the office on August 1, 1914, a position which he still holds. The superintendent is elected by the county board of education, the members of which are elected by the presidents of the various school boards of the county. The county superintendent has supervision of all the schools of the county except those of Xenia.

For the purpose of closer personal supervision, the county is divided into districts for school purposes, the districts, with their respective superintendents being as follows: Bath and Beavercreek townships and Beaver

Special, D. S. Lynn, superintendent, with thirty-seven teachers under his charge; Cedarville, New Jasper and Ross townships, and Clifton village, J. H. Fortney, superintendent, with thirty-nine teachers; Silvercreek and Cæsarscreek townships and Jamestown village, C. A. Devoe, superintendent, with thirty-six teachers; Sugarcreek, Spring Valley and Xenia townships, D. H. Barnes, superintendent, with forty-five teachers; Miami township is united with Yellow Springs village, R. O. Wead, superintendent, with thirteen teachers; Osborn village is a district to itself, totally apart from Bath township, Charles F. Hill, superintendent, with eight teachers.

#### QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS.

The educational qualifications of the teachers of Greene county are being raised each succeeding year. The time has long since passed when the only qualifications needed was the ability to read, write and cipher. If one of the early teachers of the county were to step into a modern school room, he would find very little resemblance to the room in which he taught three-quarters of a century ago. Now there is an increasing number of teachers with college training and no new teachers are being employed who have not had some normal training. The last report of the county superintendent shows that the teachers of the county have attended universities, colleges, normals and high schools as indicated in the following tabulation:

Graduates of college or university -----	24
Undergraduates of college or university -----	15
Graduates of four-year normal courses -----	4
Graduates of two-year normal courses -----	7
Undergraduates of normal schools -----	7
Graduates of normal training classes -----	6
Undergraduates of normal training classes -----	112
Graduates of high schools -----	117
Completed three years of high school -----	4
Completed two years of high school -----	4
Completed one year of high school -----	6
Common school education only -----	16
Teachers with state life license -----	9
Teachers with professional license -----	31
Teachers with provisional license -----	15
Teachers with three-year license -----	64
Teachers with two-year license -----	12
Teachers with one-year license -----	47



MISCELLANEOUS SCHOOL DATA.

Number of rural districts in county -----	13
Number of village districts in county -----	4
Number of exempted village districts in county -----	0
Number of city districts in county (Xenia) -----	1
Number of supervising districts in county -----	4
Number of districts wholly centralized -----	2
Number of districts partly centralized -----	1
Number of districts with no centralization -----	14
Number of school buildings in county -----	96
Number of school rooms used in county -----	166
Number of buildings erected in year ending June, '17-	3
Number of children enrolled in grades -----	3,597
Number of children enrolled in high school -----	609
Number of eighth grade graduates -----	268
Number of high school graduates -----	112
Number of grade teachers -----	138
Number of high school teachers -----	35
Number special drawing teachers -----	1
Number special music teachers -----	16
Number special home economics teachers -----	4
Number of special manual training teachers -----	1
Number of first grade high schools -----	9
Number of second grade high schools -----	3
Number of first grade rural schools -----	4
Number of second grade rural schools -----	77
Number of first grade consolidated schools -----	3

SUMMARY BY TOWNSHIPS AND TOWNS.

	Com. Sc. Bldgs.	H. S. Bldgs.	C. S. Rooms	H. S. Rooms	Grades	High School
Bath -----	11	1	12	3	320	38
Beavercreek -----	13	1	14	5	441	59
Cæsarscreek -----	6	1	6	3	173	23
Cedarville -----	3	0	11	3	304	63
Jefferson -----	1	0	6	3	267	36
Miami -----	4	0	4	0	93	0
New Jasper -----	8	0	8	0	210	0

Ross -----	1	0	4	0	156	26
Silvercreek -----	7	0	7	0	176	0
Spring Valley -----	10	0	13	3	301	43
Sugarcreek -----	8	0	9	3	262	49
Xenia -----	13	0	15	0	390	0
Clifton village -----	1	0	3	2	84	18
Jamestown village -----	2	0	6	3	204	87
Osborn village -----	1	0	4	3	154	61
Yellow Springs village -----	2	0	6	4	234	96
Beaver special -----	1	0	1	0	28	0
	93	3	129	37	3,597	609
		96		166		

Total value of school houses -----	\$357,000
Total value of school land -----	45,925
Total value of school furniture -----	22,075
Total value of apparatus -----	8,545
Total value of libraries -----	6,955

Total ----- \$440,500

#### MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS.

The statistics for the year ending June 30, 1917, give some interesting facts concerning the length of service of the teachers of the county. It would be interesting to know who has taught in the county longer than any other person, but since no statistics of the first half of the county's educational career are available it is impossible to determine. Among the teachers of the county who are known to have taught more than forty years are J. W. Stewart and W. K. Shiflette. Stewart is a colored teacher at Wilberforce; Shiflette has been teaching in Silvercreek township for more than forty-five years.

The report of the county superintendent shows that in the year 1916-1917 there were seventy-two teachers employed in the county who had taught more than five years, of which number twenty were men and fifty-two were women. For the periods of five years and under the records shows the following: Teaching five years, 16; four years, 12; three years, 17; two years, 19; one year, 24. There were twenty-one who began their first term in the fall of 1916.

The county board of education is elected by the presidents of the seventeen local boards of the county, the members having a tenure of five years. The members of the board for 1918 are the following: A. L. Fisher, W.

B. Bryson, J. B. Rife, O. P. Mitman and J. E. Hastings. The county superintendent of schools, F. N. Reynolds, acts as clerk of the board.

#### BATH TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

Little is known of the early schools of Bath township, owing to the fact that no written account of their development has been preserved. Fairfield was laid out in 1816 and had a school house within its quiet precincts at an early date, but when it was erected or who held sway therein are questions which will probably never be answered. The township was fairly thickly settled by the '20s, and, since most of the settlers had large families, there was a large number of children.

There were no separate school districts until 1820, the schools then existent being what might be called private ventures on the part of the teachers. They were supported by the parents and the teacher was dependent on the patrons for his meager compensation. But in 1820 the citizens felt that the time had arrived when the township should be divided into regularly organized school districts. The agitation was carried on throughout 1820, but it was not until March, 1821, that the township trustees agreed to divide the township into seven districts. It was estimated that there were three hundred children then of school age, an average of more than forty to the district.

These seven districts had their respective school buildings, which number, as the township grew in population, increased to thirteen districts. By the latter part of the '70s there were nine hundred school children within the township. At that time Osborn had a four-room building, and the village of Fairfield a three-room building.

At the present time the township has ten one-room buildings, one two-room building and one three-room building, the latter being one-half mile east of the village of Fairfield. The village of Osborn has a seven-room building, four rooms for the grades and three for the high school. The township, including Osborn, has a total of twenty-five teachers, twenty-two in the grades and three in the high school at Osborn. Osborn has a separate system, there being no connection between the village and township schools.

The last enrollment for the township shows three hundred and twenty for the grades and thirty-eight for the high school; the village of Osborn enrolled one hundred and fifty-four in the grades and sixty-one in the high school.

#### BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

Beavercreek township undoubtedly has the honor of having the first school house in the county. Three years before the county was organized in 1803 there was a log school house erected in section 31, about two miles west of Alpha, in the southeast corner of the section. The first teacher in this

first school house in the county was an Englishman who insisted on being known and addressed as Thomas Marks Davis, the Second. Just why this long and high sounding title was appended to his name is not known, but it did not make him any the less an efficient pedagogue. It is said that his meager income from his educational labors ranged from eight to ten dollars a month, a stipend which in those days was considered munificent. History is silent as to how long this first building was used, or as to what became of the eccentric wielder of the rod who presided over it.

The second school building, also a log affair, was built on section 27, about two miles northwest of Alpha, the building standing in the southeastern corner of the section. This building, as did many of the first school houses, served also as a church. In fact, many of the early communities in the county erected a building which they intended to be used for both school and church purposes. It is recorded that the German Reformed church was holding services in this second school house as early as 1809. Its subsequent history is unknown, but it undoubtedly served in this dual capacity for several years.

The year 1817 saw the third school house make its appearance in the township, this building being located in section 16, in the northeastern part of the township. Here presided one of the most famous of the early teachers of the county, Amos Quinn, later sheriff of Greene county and a representative from this district in the Legislature, and who, if tradition has a modicum of truth, must have been fully equal to all possible emergencies which might arise in the daily performance of his scholastic duties. He is represented as being a man of even temper, except when some of his refractory pupils aroused his ire, and then punishment was quick to follow and was of such a quality that the same offense was not likely to be repeated.

The fourth school house was erected within a year or two after the third one, and stood on the Xenia and Dayton pike, northeast of Alpha, on the same site later occupied by the so-called union school building. All of these four buildings thus far erected were log structures, and primitive to an extreme. The fifth building was the first brick school house in the township and was erected in 1822 on the site of the fourth school house, northeast of Alpha. As this immediate community increased in population it was found necessary to provide additional room, and accordingly a brick addition was built to the little brick of 1822. This building continued in use until 1888, when it was replaced by a brick building, which has been added to in later years.

It is not profitable to follow the building of the successive school houses throughout the township. It is sufficient to state that several years before the Civil War there were no fewer than twelve school districts, each of which

was supplied with a good building. The township now has twelve one-room buildings, one two-room building, and one five-room building. Beaver creek township has one of the best equipped high schools of the county, a brick structure, standing on the Xenia-Dayton road near Alpha.

The last enrollment of the township shows 441 in the grades and 59 in the high school; added to this is the Beaver "special" school, with an enrollment of 28. The township has a total of 19 teachers, 16 in the grades, and 3 in the high school.

#### CAESARSCREEK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

The early history of the schools of Caesarscreek township is shrouded in obscurity. With no written records of local historians of the township and with no school records of any kind covering the first few decades of the schools of the township, it is not possible to reconstruct their history at this late day. It is certain, however, that they had at least one school house in use when the county was organized in 1803, since some of the earliest settlers in the county found a permanent home within what was to become Caesarscreek township on May 10, 1803.

The first definite record concerning a school in the township dates from 1825, more than ninety years ago. In that year a term of school was taught by John McGuire in the New Hope church, which stood about a mile southwest of the village of Paintersville. This was a Quaker church and presumably the members of the church established a school as soon as they opened their church. The township was supplied with schools as the population increased, and by the '70s there were seven school buildings scattered over the township. All of these were one-room buildings except the one at Paintersville, which had two rooms.

The year 1918 finds six one-room buildings and a high school building of three rooms in the township, with a total of nine teachers for one hundred and seventy-three grade pupils and twenty-three high-school students.

#### CEDARVILLE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

Cedarville can boast of one of the very first school houses in the county, since there was certainly not more than one or two built prior to 1806, the year in which a log school house was built on the Townsley farm east of Cedarville. James Townsley was the first teacher to hold forth in this rude building, but rude as it was, it sufficed to hold a half hundred of the children of the community. It continued to be used several years after the second school house made its appearance in the township in 1810. The second structure, also of logs, stood along Massies creek. It had a puncheon floor, while

the first building had only a dirt floor, but otherwise the two primitive cabins were practically identical. One of the McCoys was the first teacher in this second school house.

Although Cedarville was laid out in 1816 it was not until 1823 that there was a school house in the village. In that year a Mrs. Gamble opened school in a hewed-log building which it seems that she had built as a school house. This was, as has been explained, in the days when the subscription school was in vogue, and anyone could build a school house and start teaching whenever they wanted to or thought they could attract enough pupils to make it a paying business.

#### LANCELOT JUNKIN.

One of the best known of the early teachers of Cedarville township was Lancelot Junkin. He was born in Kentucky on January 11, 1806, and died at Jamestown on August 11, 1883. He came with his parents to Greene county when a small boy, and when still a mere youth began teaching. He taught all over the county and it is not too much to say that literally thousands of early citizens of the county were among his pupils at some time during his long career. The brick school house which was built in Cedarville township in the '20s about two miles south of the village of Cedarville was first presided over by Lancelot Junkin. He taught there for a number of years. He married Harriet Bower, one of his pupils in this school. His father, James, was also a teacher, and is said to have been the first one in Cedarville township.

When the school laws of the state were changed and all teachers were required to pass an examination, Lancelot Junkin is credited with being the first to receive a license in Greene county. He continued teaching in Greene county until about 1848, more than a score of years of actual service in the school rooms of the county, and in that year removed to Lima, Ohio, where he remained teaching until the infirmities of old age compelled him to retire from the profession. He then sold patent medicines for a time, but was soon forced to quit on account of his health. He then went to live with a son-in-law at Jamestown, but a short time before his death on August 11, 1883, he went to his old home in Cedarville township, where he passed the few remaining days of his life. He was seventy-seven at the time of his death. He is buried near Jamestown.

#### DESCRIPTION OF PIONEER SCHOOL.

A complete description of one of the typical school houses of the county which were built prior to the War of 1812 was made by Lancelot Junkin a short time before his death. His description of the building is taken verbatim

from a paper which he prepared to be read before the Pioneer Association of Greene county, and is reproduced here in full:

Come with me away back to 1813, and let me introduce you to that school house of early days, by a description of the first one which it was my lot to attend as a pupil. This house was built in 1812 in Ross township, now Cedarville township, about two miles south of Cedarville and five miles northwest of Jamestown. It was constructed in true log-cabin style in a dense forest. The farmers and citizens within a circle of six or eight miles met on a day previously appointed and with axes they proceeded to cut down trees suitable to be used for the building. The logs were cut into length to make a house twenty-five by thirty feet and these were built to a height of twelve or thirteen feet. The roof was made of clapboards four feet in length split from timber cut the same day. These were laid in courses on slim logs called ribs, and these were held in position by smaller logs called weight poles.

The ceiling was also made of split clapboards laid on joists of round poles, the logs being left in natural roundness with the bark left on, and the spaces between them were closed with clay mortar. Its one window was made by cutting out a log, and fastening small pieces of timber perpendicularly about a foot apart, and on these greased paper was pasted, light coming through it. The floor was made of slabs split from large timbers and made smooth on one side by a large broadaxe and these were laid on joists or sleepers and fastened down by large pins. The door was made from the same material as was the floor, and hung in place by wooden hinges and fastened together by wooden pins.

The fireplace was made by cutting out a section of logs some five or six feet in length and by building up short pieces of timber outside as high as the joists at the point where the logs were cut, thus making a back wall and jambs, which were well lined with clay and mortar mingled with straw to make it more cohesive. A chimney was built up from the back wall by using short split sticks which were covered from within and without by mortar similar to that which lined the fireplace. This house was a type of those generally used in those days and, as was common by a judicious division of labor, was completed in one day. It is probable that William Junkin was the first teacher in the house that I have described.

#### CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOLS.

The fourth school house seems to have been the log building erected for the purpose on the Pollock farm, tradition fixing the year 1827 as the date for its appearance. The following year appeared the famous stone school building which was erected adjoining the village. As the population increased new buildings were erected until by the middle of the '70s there were eight buildings in the township, not including the one seven-room building in Cedarville, which had been built in 1866 at a cost of forty thousand dollars.

With the advent of consolidation five of the schools have disappeared and now there are only three left in the township outside of Cedarville. In 1916 the township began the erection of the largest school building in the county outside of Xenia, the approximate cost being eighty thousand nine hundred and sixty dollars. This building was ready for occupancy in February, 1917, and represents all of the latest improvements in school architecture. It is located at the north edge of town, opposite Cedarville College. With the erection of this magnificent new building, three rural schools were

discontinued and now four hacks convey the children from their homes to Cedarville. The high school during 1916-1917 had an enrollment of sixty-three. The total grade enrollment of the village and three rural schools is three hundred and four. The village employs a special music teacher and also a special teacher for home economics. The teachers of the consolidated school number thirteen, eight grade teachers and four regular high school teachers, besides the music teacher.

#### CEDARVILLE SCHOOLS.

The first school house in the village of Cedarville did not make its appearance until 1850, although as early as 1823 a widow by the name of Gamble built a log school building a short distance from the little village and conducted a subscription school in it for a number of years. Five years later, 1828, a stone school house was erected a quarter of a mile from the village which was in use for many years. But it was left to a school teacher to build the first school house in Cedarville.

In 1850 James Turnbull, who was born and reared in the township, and had already taught a number of years, bought from Judge Samuel Kyle a lot in the village on which to erect a school house. Here Turnbull erected a frame structure and in September, 1850, he opened his first term of school. This was a subscription school, and was a private school in every sense of the word, only those being admitted who could pay tuition. Turnbull was an excellent teacher and within three years his school had increased to two hundred pupils, but his career as a teacher was cut short by his death. It is said that his funeral was the largest of any ever seen in the town.

Following the death of Turnbull a number of teachers tried to follow in his footsteps, but none had the success which fell to the lot of the founder of the school. The township shortly afterward bought the building erected by Turnbull and started a free public school as provided by the constitution of the '50s. In 1866 the population of the town had increased to a point rendering it necessary to erect a larger building, and a brick structure of seven rooms was constructed at a cost of about forty thousand dollars. This building is still standing and is now being offered for sale by the township. In February, 1917, an eighty-thousand-dollar school building was completed in the town, which, in many respects, is the superior of any similar building in the state in a town the size of Cedarville. It is on Main street, in the north part of town, and is by far the most imposing building in the town.

Since the establishment of the public schools in 1866 there have been fifteen village superintendents, and five of these have been born and reared in Cedarville township: James Turnbull, Hugh Parks Jackson, James Foster,



John H. McMillan and K. E. Randall. The superintendents of the Cedarville schools have served in the following order since the school was taken over and made a public school: John Orr, Jr., A. G. Wilson, H. Parks Jackson, James M. Foster, G. B. Graham, J. H. McMillan, A. B. Van Fossen, J. H. Brown, J. B. Stewart, T. D. Brooks, C. S. D. Shawan, J. H. Sayers, R. A. Brown, K. E. Randall and F. M. Reynolds. Reynolds was the last superintendent, the head of the school now being known as principal. L. D. Parker was the first principal and is still serving in this capacity.

#### JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

Jefferson township did not come into existence until the summer of 1858, and for that reason its early school history is a part of the history of Silvercreek township from which township it was cut off in that year. Its separate career as a political unit, therefore, beginning as it did in 1858, found the township well supplied with school buildings; more than it has today.

The first school house erected within what is now Jefferson township was built in 1813 or the year following. It stood in what is now the town of Bowersville, immediately in front of the residence of pioneer Nicholas Bowermaster, and, so it is said, in the middle of the present road in front of the house of Bowermaster. This was a log structure of the same style of architecture as all the other school houses of that day. In this first building erected for school purposes John Mickle opened the first school in the township, and continued teaching in the building for several years thereafter. He was succeeded by Christopher Stewart, who likewise was in charge of the school for a number of years.

In due course of time this first log structure gave way to a new building, the second standing on the site where Charles Wilson later had a saw-mill. David Reese was one of the first teachers in this new building, which, so it appears, was in use until some time in the early '40s. What was known as the Gunnerville school house was built about 1820, and a Methodist preacher, one of the itinerant exhorting kind, became the first teacher. In 1820 this school was in charge of Evan Harris and he continued here until 1824 when he became the teacher of the Bowersville school. At that time, it must be remembered, there was no village there, nor was there any more than a single house on the site until after 1843.

Gradually the township filled up with settlers and school houses were erected to meet the growing number of children. However, by 1860, there were only three school houses in the township, this apparently small number being due to the fact that the township was cut off from Silvercreek only

two years before that year. In 1880 the enumeration for the township showed five hundred and ninety-eight white children of school age, and five colored children.

The first two school buildings within the site of Bowersville have been mentioned. The third building was erected in 1866, a one-story building with only one room. Ten years later it was found necessary either to erect a new building or make a substantial addition to the old one. It was finally decided to build an addition, the remodeled building being a structure of two stories, thirty feet wide and fifty feet long. It was arranged with two rooms below and one above. In 1880 the principal of the school was D. F. Donaldson, the other two teachers being J. S. Thomas and Mrs. Lizzie Thomas. The enrollment in the town schools at that time was seventy-three.

Jefferson township enjoys with Ross the distinction of being one of the two townships of the county with complete consolidation, being the first one to have this honor. The dedication of the fifty-thousand-dollar school building at Bowersville, on September 15, 1916, marks a turning point in the educational history of the township. Whereas, the children of the township had been attending small, poorly-equipped, one-room buildings for a century, all of the children of the township are now gathered in a modern school building in the center of the township. Seven hacks are used to bring the children from all parts of the township to Bowersville. The enrollment for the school shows two hundred and sixty-seven in the grades and thirty-six in the high school. There are six teachers in the grades and three in the high school. A music teacher is employed on part time.

#### MIAMI TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

There has been but little information preserved concerning the early schools of Miami township, and for this reason it is difficult to follow the course of the educational growth of the township. There were five school buildings in the township in 1845, the year in which the first school house was erected in the town of Yellow Springs. William Mills erected a small frame building for school purposes in the '50s, a private school being conducted in it for a number of years. The building is still standing in the town, a curious architectural monstrosity that always attracts attention.

When Antioch College was started in 1853 it carried an elementary department which enrolled a large number of the children of the town and township. In fact, the central feature of the educational life of the township has been Antioch College, a complete history of which is given in the chapter devoted to institutions of higher learning in the county.

The present school building in Yellow Springs was erected in 1872, the first superintendent in the new building being W. H. Scudder. It has eight

rooms, with four grade and four high school teachers. There is also another building used for school purposes in the town, a building formerly used as a church. The four rural schools of the township have a total enrollment of 93. The town schools enroll two hundred thirty-four in the grades and ninety-six in the high school. The present superintendent of the schools is R. O. Wead.

#### NEW JASPER TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

The history of the early schools of New Jasper is a part of the history of the five townships from which the township was formed in 1853, namely: Cedarville, Ross, Silvercreek, Cæsarscreek and Xenia. The first school within what is now New Jasper township was opened for the reception of pupils in 1816 in a cabin on the farm of the late Samuel Cooper. It was a deserted squatter's cabin, but it sufficed for a temporary place to conduct a school until better quarters could be provided. A man by the name of Shields is credited with being the first teacher in the cabin. How long he taught, or how long the cabin continued in use as a school room are questions which will never be answered.

Some years later, how many is not known, a second school made its appearance in the township. This second building was on the Long farm and the first teacher tradition assigns to it was David Bell. By the time the township was organized in 1853 it had three school buildings, and since then five others have been added. In 1918 the township still has eight one-room rural schools, with eight teachers, and a total enrollment for the township of two hundred and ten. The township has no high school.

#### ROSS TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

Ross township was not settled as early as some other parts of the county and there was no demand for a school house until practically all the other townships had built some kind of a building for school purposes. The earliest record of a school building of any kind in this township places the first one in 1815, and locates it at what was called "Paddy's Crossing," this being on the land of John Harper, the first settler of the township. It was of the customary style of architecture, made of round logs, puncheon floor, plank door on wooden hinges, with a window covered with well-greased paper. In this structure an Irishman, Jerry O'Leary by name, opened school in 1815 and taught a number of years. O'Leary was also a preacher and divided his attention between the spelling book and Bible, thereby serving the community in a double capacity. He preached in the homes of the settlers, with an occasional service in the school house.

The next record of a school house shows that a hewed-log building was erected in 1822 on the farm of David Paullin. This second building had a luxury that most of the first school houses did not possess—it had a puncheon ceiling; most of the early buildings were content with a roof only. In

this second building Josiah Ballard opened the first term of school in 1822, and here he wielded the rod for several winters. His monthly compensation was often as low as five dollars, but he "boarded around" and thus all his salary might be called clear gain. He must have taught for the love of teaching, since the monetary consideration was so meager that he could not hope to make much more than the merest living out of his profession. Most of these early teachers, however, were farmers and teaching was only a side issue with them.

The third house, or at least the next one of which there is any record, was built on the farm of Jacob Little. No data has been preserved concerning other early school houses, but they were all of the same stripe—all log, all built with fireplaces, but every one filled to overflowing with sturdy boys and girls, the grandfathers and grandmothers of the present generation, and all intent on getting all they could out of the simple education which was offered them. Among the early teachers of the township are the following: Jerry O'Leary, Josiah Ballard, Harmon Browder, Frank Crisman, Samuel Harvey, Isaac Taylor, Samuel McHatten, David Burley and Thomas Loomis—and not a single woman. In those days physical prowess was considered as essential to the teacher's success as educational equipment; in fact, the teacher of the '20s and '30s, and many years later, was expected to rule with the rod. It was no uncommon thing for the little log building to have a dozen or more young men as pupils at some time during the term. Young people frequently attended school until they were twenty-one, the fact that they had gone over all the work the school had to give making no difference. Old men now living have been proud of the fact that they went through the old arithmetic half a dozen times.

By the time of the Civil War the township had eight school districts, each provided with a building, and each building presided over by one teacher. There was not a single two-room building in the township, due to the fact that there were no villages in the township. A report for 1879 showed a total enrollment of two hundred and seventy-four pupils, of which number forty-nine were between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one. The men teachers at that time received an average monthly wage of thirty-nine dollars, and the women teachers only twenty-seven dollars.

Ross township was the second township of the county to bring about complete consolidation of all its school districts. With the dedication in 1916 of a thirty-five-thousand-dollar building on the Jamestown-Charlestown pike in the geographical center of the township, all of the eight rural schools of the township closed their doors forever. Instead of having eight teachers, eight separate school buildings, and eight small groups of pupils, the township now has one building, where all of the children of the township

are brought together under the instruction of seven teachers, four in the grades and three in the high school. The enrollment for 1916-17 was one hundred and fifty-six in the grades and twenty-six in the high school, a total of one hundred and eighty-two. Five hacks are used to convey the children to the new school building. There is a house for the principal and a stable on the grounds for the use of any who may drive to school. It will accommodate twelve rigs. In fact the township has one of the best equipped school systems in southern Ohio, considering the amount of money expended. The building itself is located in the midst of a beautiful hickory grove, the school grounds covering seven acres.

#### SILVERCREEK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

The early school houses of Silvercreek township were not unlike those of the other townships of the county; they were all log structures and all built on the same general plan. The date of the erection of the first building for school purposes is unknown, but it must have been before 1811, the year the township was organized. There seems to be an entire lack of information concerning the schools as they were prior to 1825. In that year there were four school houses in the township, and one of the number was a brick structure standing on the site of the old cemetery at Jamestown.

The number of school buildings was increased in later years to meet the growing population, although it never has had more than seven buildings, not counting the two in the village of Jamestown. In 1879 there was a total enumeration of three hundred and sixty—one hundred eighty-two males and one hundred and seventy-eight females. At that time Jamestown had a two-story building of four rooms, the town having an enrollment of about two hundred and sixty. The town teachers for 1879-80 were the following: William Reece, superintendent; J. W. Cruzen, Addie Shigley and Sue M. Zortman, grade teachers. The town also had a separate school for the colored children, the colored church building being used for school purposes.

The township still maintains the seven rural school buildings which it has had for several years, as well as the two separate buildings in Jamestown, one for the white and the other for the colored children. The township enrollment for the year 1916-17 was one hundred and seventy-six, which is less than one-half of the enrollment of 1880. The last enrollment figures for Jamestown give it two hundred and ninety-one—two hundred and four in the grades and eighty-seven in the high school. There are seven teachers in the rural districts, and nine in Jamestown. The colored school employs two teachers, while the other building has four in the grades and three in the high school.

## SPRING VALLEY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

Spring Valley township did not come into existence until after the county had been organized fifty years, and therefore its educational history up to 1853 is a part of those townships from which it was organized—Sugar-creek, Xenia, Beavercreek and Caesarscreek. When the township was organized it contained as many school buildings as it does today, ten in number. There are now seven one-room rural schools, one three-room building at New Burlington, and the four-room building in the village of Spring Valley.

The building in Spring Valley is a handsome cement-block structure, which was erected in 1908. The enrollment for the township includes that of the village also, which in 1916-17, was three hundred and one in the grades and forty-three in the high school. The question of erecting a township high school has been considered during the past few years, but despite the efforts of those who tried to bring it about, it has not yet been effected. The township has voted twice on the question of floating a bond issue for the erection of a high-school building, and during the campaign preceding the election, the matter was thoroughly discussed by the voters. It is probable that the vote might have carried if there had been any general agreement as to where the building should be located. In the fall of 1917 a bond issue of twenty-four thousand dollars was carried, with which there is to be built additions to the present buildings at Spring Valley and New Burlington and make them first grade high schools. In April, 1918, nothing had yet been done toward putting the plan into execution.

There are fourteen grade and three high school teachers in the township. The township employs a special music teacher.

## SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

It is not certain when the first school house made its appearance in Sugarcreek township, but it was soon after it was organized in 1803. It is probable that the first one in the township was in the present village of Bellbrook, nearly opposite the present school building. Another early school was located near the southeast corner of the Pioneer graveyard north of Bellbrook. One James Bain taught here, and, so the story goes, he had a brewery nearby where he had some of his larger pupils work at times. He lived in a cabin where the late Archibald Berryhill resided and it is said of him that by working early in the morning and late at night, he could make one hundred rails in a day, besides teaching school. He laid out and sold to the Seceder congregation for a burial ground the tract of land known as the Pioneer, Associate or Old graveyard. The consideration for that transfer was three dollars. The church stood on the northeast corner of the ground and later the school house, the one just mentioned, stood on the southeast corner of the ground.

Several buildings have been erected in Bellbrook for school purposes. The school house of Bain's burned, and this was followed by a brick structure on Maple street, where William Dodge and Dr. William Frazier taught school for a number of years. Still another brick building was erected on Maple street before the first building for a graded school made its appearance in 1854. This latter building was in use until 1894, when a new building was erected, which, in turn, gave way to the present building in 1910.

Among the early teachers of the township were James Bain, William Dodge, Dr. William Frazier, Eliza Patterson, Adamson Talbert, Jennie Perry, John Mills, Abner G. Luce, James Brown, Milton Gerard and Amanda Clancey.

There are now seven one-room buildings in the township and a five-room building in Bellbrook. The Bellbrook schools employ two grade and three high school teachers. The enrollment for the grades in the entire township is two hundred and sixty-two; the high school enrolls forty-nine.

#### XENIA TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS.

The history of the schools of Xenia township for the past one hundred years, apart from those of the city of Xenia, is similar to that of the other townships of the county. As fast as the township was settled little log school houses arose over the township, later giving way to frame buildings, and still later, in some cases, to brick structures. The first so-called higher institution of learning in the county was established in this township about 1805 or 1806, an institution which had a career extending over several years. A sketch of this interesting school is given later in another chapter.

In 1838 the schools of the town of Xenia were separated from the township schools, and since that year the town has had its separate school system, although it was not until 1848 that a complete separation was made between the township and town schools. There are now eleven one-room buildings in the township and three two-room buildings, the latter being known as the Goes, Wilberforce and Union schools, respectively. The children of the Children's Home are now under the jurisdiction of the township, an act of the Legislature placing them under its control from and after September, 1917.

#### XENIA CITY SCHOOLS.

The history of the schools of Xenia in their early days will never be written with any degree of accuracy. The absence of all written records and the fact that the few copies now extant of newspapers published during the first few decades of the city's history make no mention of the local schools, make it impossible to trace their growth from the time the first school opened in 1805 down to the year 1918—a period of one hundred and thirteen years. The first definite beginning of school records which have been preserved dates from the latter part of the '40s, but they are not even complete since that year.

It must be remembered that the present system of free public schools did not come into existence until after the adoption of the constitution of 1851. Prior to that year most of the schools were maintained by subscription, although the town had a small amount of money to be used for school purposes. The thread of the school history from 1805 to 1851 is such a slender one, the facts so unrelated and so confused, that anything like a connected history is rendered absolutely impossible. Such facts as are presented in the subsequent paragraphs concerning the history of the schools for the first half century after Benjamin Grover opened his little school of West Third street have been gleaned from former written accounts, newspaper files, stray records, and interviews with old citizens.

The first school house in Xenia stood on the lot later occupied by the dwelling house of James Kyle. This first school building was a one-room, log structure, primitive in its appointments, but withal a substantial building and fully the equal of any other building in the young village as far as architectural beauty was concerned. Here Benjamin Grover opened the first school in Xenia in 1805 and taught a number of years. In this same building Hugh Hamill, who arrived in Xenia in 1810, taught for a time. Hamill was also the village tanner for a number of years. It seems that Grover and Hamill had a monopoly on the teaching profession in the village until 1816, the year which introduced to Xenia the man who was to become its most famous teacher during the period before the Civil War.

#### FOREMOST PIONEER TEACHER.

Thomas Steele was born in Ireland, came to the United States in 1812 and to Xenia in the winter of 1815-16. He had lived for two years in Philadelphia after coming to this country and then spent one year in Lexington, Kentucky, coming from the latter city to Xenia. In the spring of 1816 he opened his first school in a building which stood on the present site of the Central school building. Here he had his dwelling house and his little school building, for in those days the teacher frequently owned his own school house; and it was such a private school that Thomas Steele maintained in Xenia from 1816 to 1848—a period of thirty-two years.

Steele must have been an unusually good teacher to have maintained a school for such a long period. He was a devout member of the Presbyterian church, and did not fail to inculcate his abiding faith in his religion into his pupils as far as possible. He was married in Xenia on October 9, 1818, to Marie Gaff. One of his daughters became the wife of Roswell F. Howard, one of the early lawyers of Xenia. One of his sons, Dr. Ebenezer Steele, was assistant surgeon of the Seventy-fourth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War. There were several other children. In 1848 Steele removed



to Adams county, Ohio, but in 1853 he returned to Xenia, where he remained until 1860, in which year he removed to Belle Center, Ohio, where he made his home with one of his daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Torrence, dying there on August 6, 1875, at the age of eighty-four. Such in brief is the life history of the central figure of the educational history of Xenia for a third of a century, a man who labored for a very small pittance because he loved the profession and the good that he was able to do by devoting his life to it. It would seem that nothing would be more appropriate than to have one of the city's school buildings named in his honor. There is now a window in the Central building appropriately inscribed to his memory.

#### OTHER PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

There is such meager data concerning the many private schools of the period prior to 1851 that it is impossible to give very much definite information concerning them. The names of Benjamin Grover, Hugh Hamill and Thomas Steele have been mentioned, but there were certainly at least a score of others who taught at different times in the town before 1851, most of these undoubtedly being women.

Few people of the present generation know that the large brick building on the hill south of the Pennsylvania station was occupied as a school building for a number of years. It appears that it was erected by Lewis Wright, who had been a teacher in the town, but it was his estimable wife, Mrs. Hannah Wright, who gave the school in the fine brick building its greatest reputation. Here there was in existence in the '40s a boarding school, some of the pupils coming from outside the town and rooming in the building, and for several years the school maintained an enviable reputation for the excellence of its work. There were other teachers connected with Mrs. Wright, notable among them being Dr. Samuel Wilson, who taught Greek and Latin and other higher branches. It is not known how long Mrs. Wright was in charge of the school, but it was evidently in operation until the opening of the '50s.

Another woman teacher who was teaching at the same time that Mrs. Wright had her school was Mrs. Mulligan, evidently of Irish extraction, who conducted a school for girls, particularly young ladies, in a building on East Church street in what is now the Kelly property. This school later gave way to the Xenia Female Academy.

John Armstrong and Rev. Hugh McMillen had schools for boys in the '40s and '50s. Armstrong had his school building on the east side of the lot now occupied by the Central school building, while McMillen occupied the building still standing just east of the Central building of today. Armstrong was a noted mathematician and it is said that at one time he received

a gold medal from the French government for some independent investigations in the field of astronomy. His two daughters conducted a school for small children in the same building after his death.

#### YEAR 1838 A TURNING POINT IN HISTORY OF XENIA SCHOOLS.

The school history of Xenia is difficult to trace prior to the adoption of the constitution of 1851. There was a confused mixture of colleges, seminaries, schools for boys, schools for girls, private schools, public subscription schools, church schools and, finally, some schools that were maintained partly by subscription and partly by public funds. But there were always schools of some kind, and even the poorest citizen could educate his children in the common school branches with little outlay.

The year 1838 may be taken as a turning point in the history of the city schools. The decade from 1838 to 1848 is covered with what was known as a Union school, this comprehensive term being applied to the schools because the town of Xenia and the township of Xenia entered into some sort of an agreement whereby they worked together to maintain a school for the town and part of the township. On September 28, 1838, the town organized a school district within the corporation, the board of education at that time being the following: William Ellsberry, chairman; David Monroe, treasurer; Alfred Trader, secretary. That the town did not expect to handle much money is shown by the fact that the treasurer was required to give only a two-hundred-dollar bond. This division of the town into school districts took away from some of the township school districts some of the territory which had hitherto been under the jurisdiction of the township. The next official notice affecting the schools of the township or town of Xenia bears the date of October 6, 1838. On that date the board of the town met with the trustees of Xenia township and discussed the school proposition. The only notation of this meeting now extant says that, "All that territory adjacent to the town of Xenia, which formerly belonged to school districts Nos. 11, 12, 13 and 14 was attached to the school district formed by the corporation of Xenia."

There seems to be no question that since 1838 the corporation of Xenia has maintained its schools separate and apart from those of the township in which it is located. The first division made in the fall of 1838 is not on record, but the divisions for the school year, 1839-40, as established by the board on November 16, 1839, were as follow: "The northeast district shall hereafter be known as sub-district, No. 1; the southeast district shall hereafter be known as sub-district, No. 2; the southwest district shall hereafter be known as sub-district, No. 3; the northwest district shall hereafter be known as sub-district, No. 4." This division was made for the purpose of complying

with the law and thereby putting the town in a position to receive its small share of the school funds. The school board in 1839 was composed of John Alexander, chairman; David Monroe, treasurer; James Gowdy, secretary.

Official records for this period, 1838-1848, are very meager. It is noted that the board organized on October 6, 1840, was appointed by the township clerk. The Legislature passed an act, March 7, 1842, which provided for four school directors. Pursuant to this act the following directors were elected on September 16, 1842: William Y. Banks, H. G. Beatty, Samuel Crumbaugh and James C. McMillen. The Legislature amended the act of 1842 with the act of March 11, 1843, and in accordance with the amended act a second election was held on September 15, 1843, at which the following directors were chosen: John Alexander, chairman, elected for three years; David Monroe, treasurer, elected for one year; Samuel Hutchinson, elected for two years; Joshua Wright, elected for one year. There were no changes made by the Legislature between 1843 and the time of the adoption of the new constitution in 1851.

#### CITY SUPERINTENDENTS.

It was in 1848, seventy years ago, that Xenia may be said to have started its present system of having a superintendent in charge of its schools. The contract for a new building for the city of Xenia provided for by the election of September 20, 1847, was let on March 11, 1848. This building stood on the site of the present Central building and was completed some time before the close of the year; at least, the record shows that the board of education on January 1, 1849, elected the first superintendent of the public schools of Xenia. This first head of the city schools was Josiah Hurty and he continued in charge of the schools until the close of the school year, July 11, 1851. During the two years and a half that he was in charge he placed the schools on a more or less graded basis, all the work, so it appears, being confined to the common school branches.

The second superintendent was D. W. Gilfillan, appointed August 16, 1851, but he was succeeded at the close of the first year by James P. Smart, who was appointed by the board on July 7, 1852. Smart was a preacher and was the best of the men who had held the position up to this time. His resignation on July 21, 1855, was very much regretted by the citizens of the city. On the day his resignation was accepted, the board of education appointed P. H. Jaquith to fill the vacancy, and he remained with the schools until the close of the school year in 1857.

J. E. Twitchell took up the burden in September, 1857, and managed the schools with marked success for the following four years. He resigned on June 25, 1861, and left behind him the best record of any of the men

who had thus far filled the superintendency. The first graduates of the high school appeared in the spring of 1859: Matthew Allison, Etta Fahnestock (Mrs. John Black) and Mary Heaton. It appears that the high school course was first definitely organized under Jaquith in 1855, but Twitchell greatly strengthened the course and put it on a firm basis.

George S. Ormsby, who was appointed on August 10, 1861, to succeed Twitchell, filled the office very acceptably for a period of eighteen years. He was followed in 1879 by George W. Welch for a period of three years, being replaced in 1882 by Edwin B. Cox, who served until his death on January 22, 1912, after which the board of education elevated George J. Graham to the superintendency. Mr. Graham had been principal of the high school since September, 1886, his connection with the schools of the city being longer than any other man who has ever been in the schools. Mr. Graham remained at the head of the school until the close of the school year of 1915-16, when he resigned to enter the business field. When he became superintendent in January, 1912, Jessa J. Pearson was elected principal and continued in this capacity until September, 1917, when Marion R. Simpson became principal.

Upon the resignation of George J. Graham in the summer of 1916, the board of education elected John R. Patterson to the superintendency. His work during the first year was so eminently satisfactory that at the close of his first term he was elected for a five-year period. Mr. Patterson is one of the ablest educators of the state and is rapidly bringing the schools of the city to the front. His comprehensive grasp of modern school problems is already evidencing itself and if he is given the proper support by the board of education and citizens of the city, there is not a doubt that he will soon have the schools of the city where they will command the attention of the entire state.

#### JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS OF CITY.

The departmental system of instruction in the Xenia schools was started in September, 1917, by Superintendent Patterson. In the McKinley building the seventh and eighth grades are now organized as a junior high school, and in the Lincoln building the sixth, seventh and eighth grades are so organized. At first there were many patrons of the schools who were not certain that the method was for the best interest of the children, but the results of the first year have convinced the most skeptical that the new departure is going to make for better instruction. In practically all of the cities of this size in the state this system is already in use, while in many states the system has been in successful operation for years. Educators are unanimous in declaring that the departmental system of teaching in the upper grades of the common school is productive of the best results. For years parents have been saying that the schools are not practical enough, that there was too much theoretical teaching, that children were not given the training which they

ought to have. The idea in the junior high-school system is to remedy this fault and make the schools prepare pupils for their future work. It is well known that only a small part of the children ever complete the high school course, and for this reason it is the effort of the modern school system to do as much for children in the grades as possible. The old idea in education was to make every one a scholar, a thing which it is manifestly impossible to do. The great majority of the pupils of every school in the country intend to make their living with their hands and for this reason the schools of today are training the hand as well as the brain.

Courses in the industrial arts have been developed for use in schools; manual training in a wide variety of forms is being given to both boys and girls; home economics for girls and shop work and agriculture for boys are now taught in the best schools all over the country. In our best schools the girl leaves the eighth grade with the ability to cook as well as her mother, to cut out and sew garments of all kinds, to trim hats, to hang pictures on the wall and do it with a proper regard for artistic effect. In other words, she is given such training that when she leaves school she has had a practical schooling that means something to her in her future life. The same practical education is being given to the boy, not home economics, but such general training in the use of the hand that he can go out into the world and actually make use of the schooling which he has had. Just in so far as the school can prepare its boys and girls for stepping out into the world ready to make their own living, just so far has the school been a real benefit to them. And it is for this very reason that the junior high-school idea is the right thing; right because it seeks to fit boys and girls to make useful citizens of themselves. Xenia is to be congratulated because it has installed this method of instruction, and each succeeding year will convince the patrons of the schools of the benefits to be derived from it.

#### SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The city of Xenia now has six school buildings, while the Catholic church also has a large school building. The oldest building in the city is the East Main street building, now used as the colored high school. The Central building, usually referred to as the high school building, was erected in 1881, while all the other buildings have been erected since that year. The finest school building is the McKinley building on West Church street, which stands on the site of one of the former cemeteries of the city.

#### TEACHERS.

There are now a total of sixty regular teachers employed in the city schools, divided among the several buildings as follow: Central, 17; East Main, 5; Lincoln, 11; Spring Hill, 8; McKinley, 17; Orient Hill, 2. The

high school for the white pupils is located in the Central building, and the faculty now consists of twelve teachers: M. R. Simpson, principal and social science; Jean B. Elwell, English; Fannie K. Haynes, Latin and history; Katherine Schweibold, mathematics; W. H. Wilson, commercial branches; Janet M. McBane, French and Spanish; Alice A. Coffin, Latin and history; Alfred Rader, industrial arts; Dorothy Armstrong, mathematics; H. Emily Neighbor, home economics; Charles H. Parrett, assistant principal, science and athletics.

The East Main street building is the colored high school of the city, and its five teachers are as follow: B. F. Lee, principal and science; Lucretia Willis, English; Helen W. Ferguson, social science and modern languages; Ruby A. Martin, Latin and mathematics; Gladys Burton, home economics; Arthur Taylor, principal of the Lincoln school, has charge of the instruction in industrial arts.

This McKinley building, the largest in the city, has seventeen teachers. In this building, as in the Lincoln building, there has been installed what is commonly known as departmental instruction, the local schools using the term "junior high school" to describe this method of instruction. This method means that each teacher has charge of only one branch of study; that is, that one teacher has all the mathematics; another all the geography, and others the other subjects of the common-school curriculum. All the seventh- and eighth-grade pupils of the city come under this method of instruction, while in the Lincoln building the sixth grade also comes under the departmental system of instruction. All the boys of the junior school get five hours each week of mechanical drawing and shop work, the girls having the same number of hours per week in home economics. The teachers in the junior high school of the McKinley building are B. C. Donahoo, principal and science; May M. Harper, assistant principal and history; Mrs. Frank H. Dean, mathematics; Mae Stevenson, English; Ruth E. Barnes, literature; Clara Martin, geography and special coaching; Mrs. Leroy Wolfe, home economics; Louise Wolfe, home economics; Austin J. Black, industrial arts.

The grade teachers in the McKinley building are Clara McCarty, principal and sixth grade; Fay Cavanaugh, fifth grade; Ella Ambuhl, fourth grade; Mrs. Florence McKeever, third and fourth grades; Ruth Jackson, third grade; Edith M. Neeld, second grade; Edith Marshall, first and second grades; Anna B. Morrow, first grade.

The grade teachers in the Central building are Edna Bloom, principal and sixth grade; Katherine Harned, fifth grade; Gertrude Heeg, third and fourth grade; Pauline Smith, second grade; Ella R. Hudson, first grade.

The grade teachers in the Spring Hill building are: Eleanor Tresslar, sixth grade; Opal Barnes, fifth and sixth grades; Mary H. Hopkins, fifth

grade; Harriett Sears; fourth grade; Mary Gretsinger, principal and third grade; Henrietta Evers, second grade; Winifred Savage, first grade; Laura A. Loyd, special coaching.

There are only two teachers in the Orient Hill building, Mamie E. Barrows, principal and third and fourth grades; Mary Evers, first and second grades.

The Lincoln building is devoted exclusively to the colored children. It has the departmental system of instruction for the sixth, seventh and eighth grades, the teachers of the junior high school being Arthur Taylor, principal and industrial arts; Beulah Underwood, mathematics and geography; Rilda E. Phelps, history and English; Elizabeth Hampton, English; Margaret Watkins, assistant and sewing; Virginia Thomas, spelling. The department of home economics is in charge of Gladys Burton of the East Main high school. The Lincoln grade teachers are May Summers, fifth grade; Nellie Nichola Ellis, fourth grade; Bertha H. Booth, third grade; Minnie P. Maxwell, second grade; Lucretia Jones, first grade.

Harriet M. McCarty is supervisor of music for all the schools of the city.

#### ENUMERATION AND ENROLLMENT IN CITY SCHOOLS.

The enumeration taken May, 1917, shows the children (unmarried) between the ages of six and twenty-one. No record is made of those between these ages who are married. The enumeration follows: Between ages of 6 and 8, 554; between 8 and 14, 1,054; between 14 and 16, 322; between 16 and 21, 575; total, 2,508. Of this total there were 1,279 males and 1,229 females.

The September, 1917, enrollment was 1,729, of which number 1,355 were white and 374 were colored. The Central high school had 298 pupils enrolled in September, 1917, while the East Main high school (colored) had 76 pupils. It should be added that the Catholic parochial school enrolled 130 pupils.

#### BUSINESS MANAGER OF CITY SCHOOLS.

In the spring of 1918 a new official was created in the public school system of the city, his title being that of business manager. He performs the duties heretofore in the hands of the clerk and treasurer of the board of education, and also those of the truant officer. He is also treasurer of the sinking fund of the school city. He buys all the supplies used by the schools, keeps charge of them and has general charge of their distribution. The first official in the new office was John R. Beacham, who took his office on March 5, 1918.

## GRADUATES OF XENIA CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL.

The first graduating class of the Central high school was in 1859, when three were graduated: Mathew C. Allison, Etta (Fahnestock) Black and Mary Heaton. This is the smallest number which has been graduated from the high school, although the years, 1860 and 1861, had the same number of graduates. In two years, 1865 and 1869, there were no graduates. The largest class was that of 1918, when there were fifty-three graduates.

In 1869 the course of study was changed from a three-year to a four-year course, this explaining why there were no graduates in that year. In 1877 the course was changed back to three years, and in that year there were two classes graduated, one in December and the other in June. The present four-year course was restored in 1898. The following summary shows the number of graduates by years:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
1859	1	2	1880	2	14	1902	7	17
1860	1	2	1881	3	6	1903	11	17
1861	1	2	1882	8	14	1904	8	17
1862	1	4	1883	4	4	1905	11	18
1859	1	2	1884	6	6	1906	8	20
1863		12	1885	7	6	1907	15	14
1864		5	1886	2	10	1908	18	19
1865		.	1887	12	16	1909	9	16
1866	1	5	1888	3	10	1910	7	17
1867	5	4	1889	1	12	1911	10	21
1868	5	9	1890	7	9	1912	16	22
1869		.	1891	4	10	1913	14	4
1870	3	18	1892	6	12	1914	12	27
1871	5	10	1893	2	26	1915	10	22
1872	3	10	1894	8	12	1916	23	19
1873	4	2	1895	7	17	1917	14	27
1874	1	7	1896	10	18	1918	20	33
1875	1	7	1897	8	21			
1876	2	4	1898		5	Total	376	723
1877	1	13	1899	7	9	Grand total	1,099	
1878	1	5	1900	6	14			
1879	1	4	1901	3	19			

## GRADUATES OF XENIA EAST MAIN STREET HIGH SCHOOL.

For more than forty years the city has maintained a separate high school for the colored pupils of the city, the first class graduating in 1879. There are now five regular teachers in the high school. The school has graduated 301 students since the first class of two completed the course in 1879. A summary of the graduates by years is given in the following table:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
1879	2	.	1882	2	3	1885	3	3
1880	5	2	1883	1	8	1886		4
1881		.	1884	5	6	1887	3	5



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1888	3....	5	1900	1....	8	1912	3....	2
1889	1....	6	1901	3....	4	1913	1....	6
1890	5....	5	1902	3....	7	1914	3....	6
1891	6....	7	1903	3....	4	1915	4....	2
1892	3....	9	1904	5....	9	1916	6....	1
1893	3....	7	1905	6....	5	1917	.....	4
1894	4....	7	1906	1....	7	1918	4....	6
1895	7....	5	1907	1....	5			
1896	6....	4	1908	4....	4	Total	.....126....	175
1897	5....	8	1909	6....	4	Grand total	.....	301
1898	.....	.	1910	2....	6			
1899	3....	7	1911	3....	4			

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### HIGHER INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING IN GREENE COUNTY.

The educational history of Greene county is peculiarly rich in its institutions, of higher learning. As far back as 1805 or 1806 there was a so-called seminary in operation in the county near Xenia, and from that day down to the present there have been what are denominated institutions of higher learning. It was more than half a century after the county was organized in 1803 before there was any kind of a public school approaching the present high school, but during this period the children of the county were not entirely without the means of higher education. There were seminaries, academies, colleges and even universities in operation, while of other private schools of high grade there were always a few to be found.

Beginning with the seminary of 1805 there has followed a succession of these so-called higher educational institutions. The following pages tell of the Xenia Female Academy, Xenia Female Seminary and Collegiate Institute, Xenia Female College, Xenia College, Antioch College, Cedarville College, United Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Xenia and Wilberforce University. Of these several institutions there are now only four remaining: Antioch College, Cedarville College, Xenia Theological Seminary and Wilberforce University.

#### FIRST INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING IN GREENE COUNTY.

The word seminary seemed to appeal to the older generation; it was a high-sounding term, one which seemed to have a scholastic connotation that endeared the word to the citizens of the early part of the last century. The word is seldom used in these latter days, being now confined largely to theological schools or institutions for girls. But a hundred years ago the word seminary was applied to all sorts of schools, male and female, and both; to what we would today call high schools, and to colleges which did about the same work which is today found in our better grade of high schools.

All of which is prefatory to a brief description of the first seminary in Greene county—the first institution which might be called a higher institution of learning. The data concerning this institution is naturally very meager, and only the most casual references to it have been preserved. It opened, as near as can be ascertained, in 1805 or 1806 in the Union church which stood about two miles south of Xenia, a log structure which had been

built in 1804 largely through the efforts of Moses Trader, Frederick Bonner, John Sale, Philip Davis, James Towler, George Wright, James Butler, Isaiah McDaniel, Timothy Heath, Nathaniel Bell and Bennett Maxey. Trader, Towler, Sale and Maxey were preachers.

Who the first teachers were—there was certainly not more than one at a time—how many pupils they had, or what the length of term may have been, are some of the unanswerable questions concerning this infant school. But the school must have thrived, since on August 3, 1808, the trustees of the seminary held a meeting to discuss plans for a building to house the institution. The trustees at that time were Rev. Bennett Maxey, Rev. James Towler, James Butler, Frederick Bonner and Peter Pelham. Just what action the trustees took is not known, but from subsequent developments it seems that they were of one opinion concerning the needs of the seminary.

The next definite date in the history of the seminary is January 1, 1810, on which date school was opened in a new building. Previous to this date occurred certain events which can be arrived at only inferentially. It is known that James Butler, John Sale and Philip Davis donated three acres of land for a site; that the new building was a log structure, thirty by twenty feet, ten feet in height, with two doors and four windows of twelve lights each, the panes being ten by eight inches, with a solid oak flooring and a chimney of generous size at each end of the building—all in all, a quite imposing building for those days.

Such was the first real institution of higher learning erected in Greene county. A log cabin, sixteen feet square, was built close by for the teacher, John Finley. He was selected by the trustees and was given permission to teach twelve months in the year. They guaranteed him twenty pupils to begin with and allowed him to charge tuition at the rate of two dollars a month (or term), half in money and half in produce, or, if they had the money, it was to be one dollar and a half. Whether he had his twenty pupils, or more, or whether he got his money, or his produce, are some more unanswerable questions. But he did start, and he did teach—how long is not known, but presumably until schools were established in Xenia and placed on a firm basis.

The trustees (John Sale was president of the board and Peter Pelham, secretary) laid down a code of rules to govern the seminary, among which was permission to use corporal punishment on all refractory pupils under the age of twenty-one. Furthermore, a strict prohibition was placed on "bad language," the rule not specifying just what was deemed such language. The course of study was also set forth, although just how this was graded to meet the various ages of the prospective pupils is left to the imagination of the reader. The books which were to be studied included the following: "Webster's Spelling Book" (fourth edition), "American Preceptor" (probably

some kind of a religious treatise), "American Selections and Columbian Orator," "Stephen Jones' Improvement of Sheridan's Dictionary," "Workman's Arithmetic," "Harrison's Grammar" or "Wilson's Grammar" and "Morse's Geography."

This concludes the history of the first seminary in Greene county as far as it has been possible to follow its career. Undoubtedly, it was well patronized during the time it was in existence, and quit its labors only when other and better schools were provided. But that the early settlers of the county should have felt the need of such an institution right after the county was organized shows that they were men of discernment.

#### BELLBROOK ACADEMY.

The building which housed the Bellbrook Academy stood on the lot east of the Presbyterian church. It was erected in the early '30s and for a score of years many of the leading citizens of Bellbrook and vicinity received the greater part of their education in it. Edmund H. Munger, fresh from college in 1848, taught at least one year here. There was a hall in the building where secret societies and political parties held their meetings, and among the things in the hall was a banner used by the Democrats against the Whigs in the campaign of 1852. On this banner was the legend "Fuss and Feathers," an epithet of derision which was applied to General Winfield Scott, the Whig candidate for the presidency in the campaign.

Sometime in 182 the old academy, which then belonged to Harrison Vaughn, caught fire. When the fire was first discovered it was between the ceiling and the roof, but the owner would not allow Harry Hosier, a fire fighter, to break through the ceiling to get at the blaze because it would ruin the plastering. The result was that the old building burned to the ground. It was never rebuilt and for many years its cellar remained filled with rubbish and broken bricks.

#### XENIA FEMALE ACADEMY—XENIA FEMALE SEMINARY AND COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE—XENIA FEMALE COLLEGE—XENIA COLLEGE.

The story under this head is peculiarly complicated, a complication arising from the fact that the same institution changed its name so frequently during the first few years of its existence that it is difficult to follow its career. Starting as the Xenia Female Academy in 1850, it became the Xenia Female Seminary and Collegiate Institute in 1854, the Xenia Female College in 1856, and Xenia College in 1863, continuing under the latter designation until it closed its doors in the latter part of the '80s.

The inception of the first institution, the Xenia Female Academy, was an act of the General Assembly of the state, dated March 21, 1850, which

granted a charter to an institution known by that name. The incorporators were Thomas Coke Wright, David Barr, Joseph A. Coburn, Abraham Hivling, Dr. Joshua Martin, Roswell F. Howard, Daniel Martin, Hugh McMillen, Thomas S. Towler, Joseph G. Gest, William B. Fairchild and James J. Winans. These men, all residents of Xenia or the immediate vicinity, represented the leaders in several professions. Here were ministers of the gospel, lawyers at the bar, newspaper editors, physicians, merchants and practical business men of different callings.

The incorporators held their first business meeting on June 1, 1850, and organized by electing Daniel Martin president and Joseph A. Coburn secretary. It was decided to solicit subscriptions to the capital stock, which, by the charter, was to be limited to \$25,000, divided into five hundred shares of fifty dollars each. Daniel Martin was authorized to canvass the city and county for stock subscriptions and he met with such success that on June 29 the incorporators, all being stockholders, met for permanent organization. The stockholders elected nine trustees: Abraham Hivling, John B. Allen, James J. Winans, Joseph G. Gest, William Cooper, Daniel Martin, David Barr, Joshua Martin and Hugh McMillen. Two days later, July 1, these nine trustees met and effected a permanent organization by electing the following officers: President, Dr. Joshua Martin; treasurer, Daniel Martin; James J. Winans, secretary.

*Success Assured From the Start.*—The history of the academy shows that its promoters were anxious to get it going as soon as possible. On July 4 the trustees held a meeting at which they decided to advertise the opening of the academy in the fall of the same year, that is, in the fall of 1850. It seems that at this same meeting the trustees elected Dr. Thomas S. Towler superintendent of the academy, although it was not until October 19 that Nancy M. Hartford and Mary E. McQuirk were elected as additional teachers.

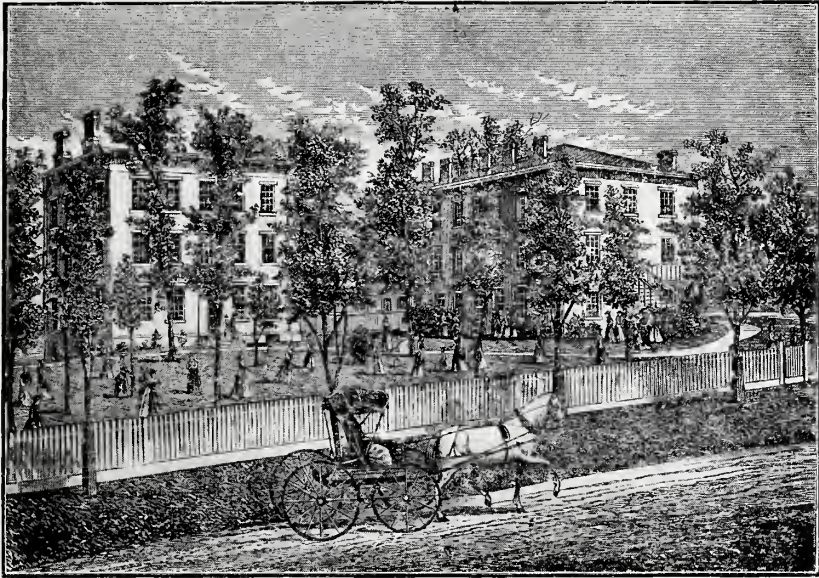
The trustees had secured an option on the old county seminary building on East Church street, and it was proposed to conduct the new school in this building until it could be seen whether a new building should be erected. In this building, accordingly, the first term of the Xenia Female Academy opened during the latter part of October, 1850. A part of the building was set aside for housing such pupils as might come in from outside the city, the dormitory, if it may be so called, being placed under the charge of Mrs. Huntington.

The school year of 1850-51 was such a success that the trustees felt justified in proceeding with the collection of funds for the erection of a new building for the academy. On May 21, 1851, they appointed a committee to select a suitable site for the proposed new building. This committee made its final report on July 30, 1851, and recommended that the building be

erected on East Church street. The trustees had previously given notice that the first installment of the stock subscriptions would be called for on August 1, 1851. On July 22 the trustees had re-elected Dr. Thomas S. Towler superintendent for another year, and on the 30th of the month, the day the committee reported their selection of the new site, the board of trustees appointed Hugh McMillen, David Barr and Superintendent Towler as a committee to take charge of the erection of the building. Meanwhile, school was to continue in the old building. The board elected Mrs. Lewis Wright and Mary Eliza Harbison as assistants to Superintendent Towler, these two teachers continuing with the academy during the two succeeding years.

The new building was completed in the summer of 1852. At the close of the school year in 1852 the trustees of the new institution were in considerable doubt as to its future possibilities. The new constitution of the state had provided for a new system of common schools, a system whereby the old subscription school was to be abolished and free public schools opened. Up to this time all the better schools had been tuitional, but when it was proposed to establish throughout the state a complete system of *free* schools, open to every one, it soon became apparent that the many private tuitional schools would have to close their doors. Therefore, in the summer of 1852 the trustees of the Xenia Female Academy had a serious problem before them. What would they do with their new institution? They could hardly expect to get the patronage they expected, especially when they had calculated on doing much of the same work which was to be done by the free public schools, considering the fact that they had to depend on tuition for the support of their school. It was at this juncture that the history of the school takes a sudden turn.

*Church Lines Rigidly Drawn.*—In the '50s church lines were much more sharply drawn than at the present time. With all due regard for the religious faith of our forefathers, it must be said that they were far from being as tolerant of faiths other than their own as their children are today. Men and women still living in Greene county can recall when a Presbyterian would not have dared to attend the services of a Methodist church, and conversely a Methodist would hardly have risked his soul's salvation by venturing into the precincts of a Presbyterian church. A knowledge of these conditions is necessary to explain the next change in the history of the Xenia Female Academy. The Presbyterians had a female school of their own in Xenia, but the Methodists were not altogether certain that it would be the right thing to allow their daughters to attend such an institution. Hence, and for reasons just stated, it is not surprising that in the summer of 1852, when the management of the Xenia Female Academy were discussing the future of their institution, that the Methodists began to consider taking over the school



XENIA FEMALE COLLEGE. (From an old cut.)



GALLOWAY HALL. WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY, XENIA.





and turning it into an institution for their daughters. The result of the negotiations between the Methodists and the trustees was an offer on September 27, 1852, to place the school under the management of the Cincinnati Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church.

The church agreed to assume the control of the school under certain conditions: First, that six thousand dollars should be raised in Xenia and immediate vicinity for the purpose of building a boarding-house and making other stipulated improvements, and secondly, that the trustees of the academy should transfer to the church a sufficient amount of stock in order to give it a controlling interest in the school. The church, on its part, appointed Rev. Charles Elliott, Rev. A. Lowry and Rev. W. I. Ellsworth to represent it during the time the Academy trustees were trying to fulfill these conditions.

The full amount was raised by February 15, 1853, or at least it was guaranteed by Dr. Joshua Martin, Michael Nunnemaker, Alfred Trader, Nathan Nesbitt, I. S. Drake and Casper L. Merrick. At the same time sufficient stock was turned over to the church to give it control of the school. With these conditions met, the church assumed the management of the Academy, a control which was maintained through all the successive changes in name and policy of the institution until it was closed.

On February 26, 1853, the church appointed Abraham Hivling, Alfred Trader and Dr. Joshua Martin as a building committee and instructed them to confer with the conference in regard to the erection of the proposed boarding-house. Doctor Lowry was appointed principal of the school on May 16, 1853, at the same time being authorized to act as fiscal agent for the school. The boarding-house was erected in the summer of 1853 and was ready for the reception of students in the fall of that year. With the new management in charge the school took on a new lease of life and managed to weather all the adverse conditions. It was still called the Xenia Female Academy, but on June 30, 1854, Dr. Joshua Martin and C. L. Merrick were ordered to take such legal steps as might be necessary to change the name to the Xenia Female Seminary and Collegiate Institute. Rev. Mansfield French had been elected superintendent on May 18, 1854, and he wanted to make the school co-educational. This change in policy made it necessary to change the name of the school, hence the bisexual appellation which was given it—Xenia Female Seminary and Collegiate Institute—the first half being feminine and the last half masculine. During the incumbency of French, 1854-56, the school became recognized as an able institution. On May 7, 1856, Rev. O. M. Spencer became the head of the school, being succeeded on August 4, 1858, by William Smith, A. M., who was to remain in charge for a quarter of a century.

The next change in name was made on May 6, 1861, when the school

became known as the Xenia Female College. Two years later, however, it was again made co-educational and so continued until it closed its career. When it was decided to open it to both sexes in 1863, the school was given its fourth and last name—Xenia College, the name by which it was thereafter known. Its history from 1863 until the retirement of its president, William Smith, in 1884, is within the memory of a large number of people still living in the county. Professor Smith was a man of unusual ability as an instructor and hundreds of people of Xenia and the vicinity still testify to the excellence of the instruction which they gained in his school. Upon his retirement the school passed into the charge of Professor DeMotte, who conducted the school for three or four years and then it was closed forever, conditions in educational affairs having reached a point in Xenia where it was no longer profitable to conduct a private school.

The two buildings later were purchased by Eli Millen and the college building proper, which has since been remodeled into a dwelling house, is still owned by his estate. The old boarding-house was torn down a few years ago and the brick were used in constructing part of the present Bijou Theatre.

#### XENIA FEMALE SEMINARY.

In the latter part of the '50s, a large three-story brick building was erected on West Third street, the same building which has been used by the Xenia Theological Seminary since 1879. In this large and pretentious looking building, it was hoped to establish a seminary where the daughters of Presbyterians could be given all of the education demanded by the girls of that day. The school had only fairly started when the Civil War opened, and this brought about a suspension of its work.

In 1861 the school was re-opened by the three daughters of the Rev. John Ekin, a Presbyterian minister, who had been preaching for some years in the South on account of his health. When the war opened in the spring of 1861 Reverend Ekin and his three daughters, all of whom had been teaching in the South, came to Xenia at the suggestion of Rev. R. D. Harper, pastor of the First United Presbyterian church of Xenia, who thought that the three sisters could very profitably open a seminary in the building on West Third street. Accordingly, the summer of 1861 saw Reverend Ekin and his three daughters located in Xenia, and in the fall of the same year the sisters opened the school to the girls of the community. The sisters cleaned the three-story building from top to bottom themselves, washed the windows and scrubbed the floors, for the simple reason that when the family reached their new home they had only fifty dollars. The sisters were as efficient teachers as they were housekeepers, and they soon had a goodly number of students enrolled under their instruction. Among these girls of

more than a half century ago were Ella Harper, Julia Barr, Chessie Reid, Chrissie Moody, Mattie Leman, Rebecca Jacoby, Mattie Allison, Fannie Smart, Sallie McDowell, Hattie Williamson, Anna McCracken, and the two Millen sisters, Jennie and Emma. The Ekin sisters continued the school for five or six years, but with the opening of the public high school in the city in the latter part of the '60s, both the Methodist and Presbyterian seminaries for girls began to lose their students and it was soon evident that the seminary on Third street would have to close its doors. The building in which the seminary was conducted was purchased by the Xenia Theological Seminary in 1879, and is now used as a dormitory by that institution.

#### ANTIOCH COLLEGE.

Antioch College, established in Yellow Springs, Ohio, by the Christian church in 1852, was the pioneer of pioneers in co-education. That was a fundamental principle of its founders in the establishment of the college. Horace Mann was sought as its first president because he was the foremost distinguished advocate of the idea of democracy in education. He accepted the call to the presidency because the whole plan of the college in this regard was the fulfillment of his own dream of what a college should be. His career in Massachusetts had been a brilliant one educationally and politically. The outlook for him there was as promising as a man of his high ideals of personal usefulness could wish for. But the call of the West to become the leader of a great co-educational enterprise, to throw his life into the realization of a great hope, appealed to him more than a brilliant political career.

Oberlin had had a partial co-educational system for a number of years before Antioch was founded. But it did discriminate against women, so that they were not upon equal terms with men. There was a separate course for women, and those who took it had a separate commencement. Those who took the regular college work were not permitted to appear upon the platform along with the men and to read their orations. Oberlin had taken an advanced step, and probably was as far ahead as her constituency would approve at that time.

Antioch removed all discriminations as to sex in class room and upon the graduating platform. This attitude appealed to many young people. Some of the women at Oberlin resented the lingering of the discriminations against women there, and a few came to Antioch and graduated with its first class, and two or three of them became distinguished educators.

Antioch College has proven abundantly the soundness of the co-educational idea. Her records will show that women are not only the equal of men in class room work, but that usually the honors for high grades have gone to them.

*The Beginnings of Antioch.*—The first date connected with the history of Antioch College may be set down as October 2, 1850, on which date a convention of the members of the Christian church was held in Marion, Wayne county, New York, for the purpose of discussing the establishment of a church school. They decided to call the proposed school Antioch, this name being given because it was in that ancient city of Syria where the followers of Christ are said to have first been called Christians. It was not decided at this meeting of 1850 where the college was to be located, how the money was to be raised for its establishment, or anything definite concerning its future, other than that it should be called Antioch if it ever materialized.

Two years were to elapse before the college began to take definite form, although in the meantime a committee had been appointed to devise a plan whereby the college could be financed, the committee also looking over the country for the most eligible location. The general scheme of financing the institution was based upon the sale of scholarships, it being planned to sell scholarships at the rate of one hundred dollars per pupil. It was proposed to raise fifty thousand dollars in this manner, which would mean that five hundred scholarships would have to be sold. As before stated, the committee was instructed to look for a suitable location "somewhere on the thoroughfare between Albany and Buffalo." This committee held a meeting on October 29, 1851, at Stafford, New York, to make a survey of the situation. They found that churches of the old Northwest Territory had been working hard to raise funds for the college, and, strange as it may seem, they had outdone the Eastern states in raising money. In fact, it was the state of Ohio that led all the other states in the amount of money raised, and at a subsequent meeting held at Enon, Ohio, on January 21, 1852, it was decided to establish a college at Yellow Springs, Greene county, Ohio.

There can be no question that William Mills, the proprietor of Yellow Springs, was responsible for the location of the college in his town. He gave twenty acres for a campus and pledged \$20,000 personally, while he induced some other citizens of the town to pledge an additional \$10,000. This \$30,000 was to be paid in ten annual instalments of \$3,000 each, and it was hoped, would provide sufficient money to meet the current expenses of the infant institution. The buildings built in the beginning of the history of the school are still standing. They are three in number: The main college building, known as Antioch Hall, and two dormitories, one for the male and the other for the female students. The main college building is in the form of a cross, 170 feet long with a transept of 110 feet, the structure being three stories high. It contains the auditorium, lecture rooms, library, and in fact all of the different departments of the college. Both dormitories are 40 by 160 feet, and four stories high. The president's house, a brick struc-

ture three stories high, was erected in 1854. These four buildings were erected at a cost of \$120,000.

The main college building was opened for the reception of students on October 5, 1853. The faculty had been selected at a meeting of the board of trustees on September 15, 1852, and was composed of the following: Horace Mann, president, C. S. Pennell, Miss R. M. Pennell, Rev. Thomas Holmes, Rev. W. H. Dougherty and Ira W. Allen. A. L. McKinney was made principal of the preparatory department. A word should be said about President Mann. At the time of his election to the presidency he was recognized as one of the foremost, if not the foremost, educator in America, and as long as he was president of Antioch College he gave it a reputation which made it a college of recognized high standing. When the school was opened in October, 1853, the college proper enrolled six students, while the preparatory department had more than two hundred. The original freshman class of six was augmented by others before the conclusion of the four-year-course, raising the first class which graduated on June 27, 1857, to fifteen—twelve men and three women. Sixty-one years have passed since this first class was graduated and during that time thousands of students have received all or part of their collegiate training within the walls of Antioch.

It is not necessary to enter into a detailed discussion of the financial troubles of the school during its early years, but a brief notice of them is pertinent to an understanding of what the college has had to pass through in order to maintain its very existence. It had been stipulated in its original charter that two-thirds of the board of trustees should be members of the Christian church, and naturally the church in a sense was looked to as being behind the institution. It had been planned to sell scholarships and the money thus derived, supplemented by the donations of Mills and other Yellow Springs citizens to the amount of thirty thousand dollars, and a nominal tuition from those not having scholarships, was supposed to be sufficient to provide enough money to erect the buildings and keep the school in operation. But not all who subscribed scholarships paid for them. The tuition did not measure up to the expectations of the trustees; the thirty thousand dollars was to be paid only in three-thousand-dollar annual payments; expected donations from interested persons did not all materialize. The net result was that by 1857 the expenses of the school were exceeding the revenue by nearly ten thousand dollars each year. Something had to be done, and done quickly.

#### EFFORT TO GET ON SOUND FOOTING.

At this crisis agents were sent out to solicit subscriptions. The Unitarians of Boston and other Eastern states were appealed to for aid and they responded in a liberal manner, but still the situation was far from being satisfactory. The year 1857 found the institution with debts amounting to

more than eighty thousand dollars, every apparent effort having been made to reduce the debt. Money had been borrowed, mortgages had been laid, the friends of the school had done their utmost—and still it was evident that a change had to be made. After considering the question from every angle, the trustees, in June, 1857, decided to assign the property of the school to F. A. Palmer, of New York city, president of the Broadway Bank, of that city, and a very liberal friend of the school. Two years were to be devoted to the liquidation of the debts of the institution, and these two years, 1857-59, were full of forebodings for the future of the school. The college was kept open, the faculty having been reorganized in the summer of 1857, President Mann agreeing to stay and wait the outcome. The faculty divided the receipts during these two years, this forcing them to be content with only about half of their regular salaries.

Finally came the day of the sale, April 19, 1859. A suit for foreclosure had been entered in the spring of the year by the Hartford Insurance Company, which held a first mortgage on the real estate. The courts appraised the real estate at sixty thousand dollars and the personal property at ten thousand dollars. On the day before the sale the friends of the school held a meeting at which they agreed to pool their funds and attempt to retain the school by outbidding any other prospective purchasers. When the school was offered for sale it was bid in by F. A. Palmer, the assignee, at two-thirds its appraised valuation, no other parties making a bid. The college immediately was turned over by Palmer to five provisional trustees for the same amount, and by the latter, on April 22, 1859, to the trustees of a newly organized corporation known as "Antioch College, of Yellow Springs, Greene County, Ohio."

The new corporation had agreed to pay about forty thousand dollars for the school, although it was agreed that certain of the debts of the former management should be met, the debts aggregating about forty thousand dollars. This meant that the new management was assuming an obligation of about eighty thousand dollars. Steps were at once taken to raise this amount among the Christian and Unitarian churches, each denomination giving about half of the full amount. The new board of trustees, twenty in number, were divided between the two churches, twelve to the Christian and eight to the Unitarian. President Mann, one of the incorporators, became president of the corporation. The faculty and general policy of the school was continued without change, it having proved that President Mann had put the school on a basis which commanded the respect of the best educators of the country.

Thus the year 1859 may be taken as the beginning of a new era in the history of the school. It was starting out free from debt and it has never allowed itself to get into the unfortunate condition suffered in the first few

years of its career. In additions to the liberal donations which the friends of the school had made toward its purchase in 1859, a number made additional donations so that the school was provided with an annual income of five thousand dollars for three years; that is, that much above the tuitional revenue.

*The Death of Horace Mann.*—But the year 1859, while it saw the emergence of the institution from the clouds which had hovered over it for three years, was also destined to witness the death of its masterful president, Horace Mann. He had labored for the school with such energy that his health gave way under the strain. He died within sight of the college which, more than any other man, he had helped to establish and bring through its most trying years. August 19, 1859, marked the end of his connection with Antioch College, and with his death the college lost its first and undoubtedly the greatest president it has ever had. This is said with all due respect to the able men who have followed him, for, be it said, Horace Mann is to this day looked upon as one of the greatest educators the country has ever produced. He was buried in the college grounds, but the following year his remains were exhumed and taken to Providence, Rhode Island, and inhumed by the side of his first wife.

In September, 1859, Rev. Thomas Hill, D. D., was appointed president of the college and remained at the head of the school until June, 1862, when he resigned to accept the presidency of Harvard University. The friends of the school pledged an additional two thousand dollars a year for three years, this giving the school seven thousand dollars annually above the tuitional revenue. The school, however, gradually lost students, although the class of twenty-eight in 1860 still remains as the largest class ever graduated from the institution. But in 1861 there were only seven graduates, while the following year saw eighteen graduates completing the course. At the close of the school year in 1861, the president went to New England to attempt to raise an endowment fund, and while there Ft. Sumter fell. This blow which plunged the nation into a four-year struggle came very near being the doom of Antioch. Doctor Hill had to give up the idea of getting an endowment for the college at this time. The pledges of seven thousand dollars were all redeemed in June, 1862, and there seemed to be nothing to do but close the school.

The next three years, 1862-65, mark another trying time for the unfortunate school—three years when the whole nation suffered. Antioch was not the only college which was practically forced to suspend for the period of the war. In the summer of 1862 Professor J. B. Weston assumed charge of the school at the request of the trustees, and some of the teachers agreed to remain and be satisfied with such compensation as might be prorated

among them from the tuition fees. Only a few of the college classes were maintained and the classes of 1863, 1864 and 1865 had but one graduate each.

Things went from bad to worse, and the worse became so bad that nothing seemed to be able to save the college from complete extinction. Church squabbles helped to relieve the monotony, but they only aggravated conditions. The Unitarians seemed to have contributed more money than the Christians, and consequently they demanded more of a voice in the management of the school. The members of the Christian church wanted to blame the Unitarians for all the trouble that had come upon the school, while those who had invested in real estate in Yellow Springs with the hope that it would prove a profitable investment blamed both churches. It was certainly an unfortunate situation viewed in any light.

*Church Rivalry Comes to a Head.*—The upshot of the difference between the two churches led to a curious agreement between them. In June, 1862, the Christians began an attempt to raise an endowment of fifty thousand dollars in one year, later extended to two years—but if they could not do it, then the Unitarians were to have a like opportunity. The church which secured this amount was to have the school.

The Christians, being the first to make the attempt, would seem to have had the advantage, but at the end of their two-year effort they had secured pledges for less than one-tenth of the amount—less than five thousand dollars. They acknowledged their inability to raise the fifty thousand dollars, and in June, 1864, the Unitarians began their two-year effort to raise the amount. The Unitarians wanted it stipulated before they began their campaign for money that the board of trustees, should they get the full amount raised, should be chosen irrespective of any church affiliation. This was granted, and they went to work. Evidently there were more Unitarians with money than Christians; at any rate, on June 21, 1865, they announced that they had not only raised the full amount of fifty thousand dollars, but had actually raised double that amount—one hundred thousand dollars.

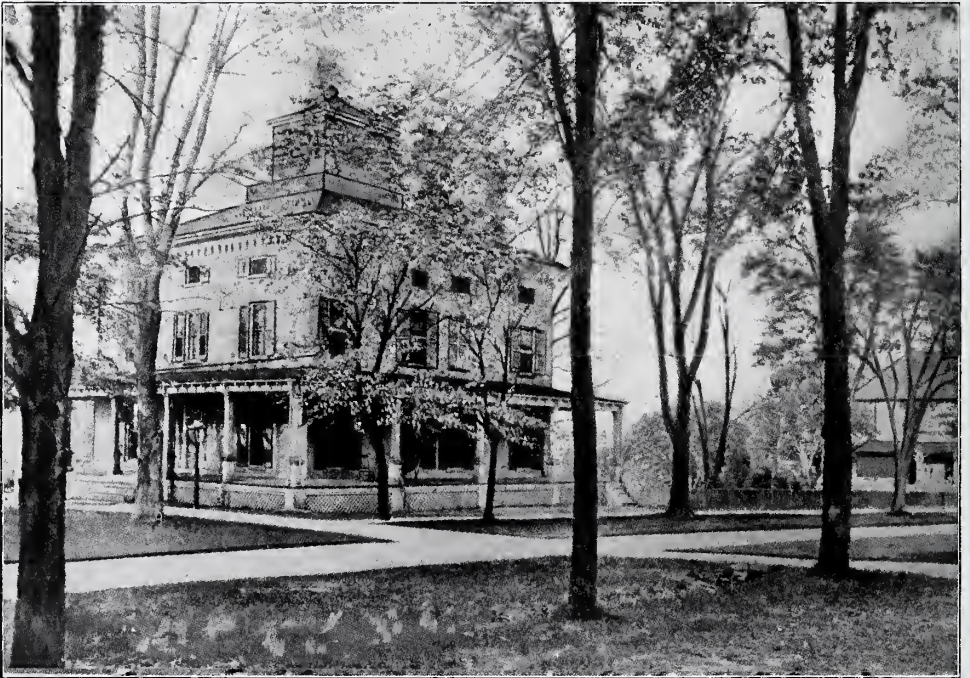
Thus a second time the institution was saved from utter annihilation. With true christian forbearance the Unitarians did not try to force the members of their own denomination on the board of trustees, and although all the Christian members of the board had resigned, most of them were re-elected to their former places on the board. At this happy meeting on June 21, 1865, the Civil War then being over, it was planned to open the college in all its departments in the following September. A full faculty was provided, and Andrew D. White, later and for many years president of Cornell University, was elected president. However, he did not accept, and the trustees made Prof. Austin Craig acting president. In 1866 Rev. G. W. Hosmer, D. D., of Buffalo, New York, was elected president, and he served with distinction







ANTIOCH COLLEGE, YELLOW SPRINGS.



PRESIDENT'S RESIDENCE, ANTIOCH COLLEGE.



MEMORIAL STONE AT OLDTOWN.



HORACE MANN MONUMENT, ANTIOCH COLLEGE.



until he resigned in June, 1872, the resignation to take effect on January 1, 1873.

The history of the school since its re-opening in the fall of 1865 has been quiet and uneventful. Doctor Hosmer continued as professor from January 1, 1873, until the close of that school year, the board appointing Prof. Edward Orton to take up the duties of the presidency. The latter, however, resigned in June, 1873, to become president of the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College at Columbus. The board selected Prof. S. C. Derby as acting president in June, 1873, and he served in this capacity until 1881. At present he is the oldest professor in Ohio State University, having been at the head of the Latin department of that institution a great many years.

*Christian Church Again in Charge.*—In 1882 the management of the college was again assumed by the Christian church, an arrangement being made with the board of trustees by which the revenue arising from the endowment fund was to be placed in the hands of the church and its general management entrusted to them. O. J. Wait, of Fall River, Massachusetts, was elected president in the summer of 1882, but served only one year. He was followed by Dr. D. A. Long of North Carolina, who served until 1898. In that year an Indiana educator, William A. Bell, a graduate of the institution and founder of the *Indiana School Journal*, was elevated to the presidency. Doctor Bell remained at the head of the college until 1902, when Stephen F. Weston, a graduate of the college, was made dean and placed in active charge, although the presidency was given to Franklin W. Hooper, head of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. President Hooper remained in Brooklyn at the head of his school during all of the time that he was president of Antioch, the actual direction of the school being in the hands of Dean Weston. This divided responsibility was maintained until 1906, in which year Dr. Simeon D. Fess, the present congressman from this district, was elected to the presidency.

Doctor Fess was elected to Congress in 1916 and took his seat on March 4, 1917. After taking his seat in Congress, Doctor Fess suggested to the board of trustees that he resign the presidency of the college, but they urged him to continue as head of the school. However, the country was soon at war with Germany and Congress was kept in session. For this reason Doctor Fess urged upon the board of trustees the acceptance of his resignation as president of the school. This they did and then offered the position to Dr. George D. Black.

Doctor Black had been connected with the faculty of the college since 1907, having been elected in that year to fill the chair of New Testament Literature and Comparative Religions, and at the same time was made vice-president of the college. For some time before President Fess went to Con-

gress he was absent from the college making speeches in its behalf and also appearing on the lecture platform. Thus Doctor Black, as vice-president, was frequently called upon to serve as acting president. And when the board of trustees offered him the presidency, they felt that they were securing a competent successor to Doctor Fess. However, Doctor Black declined to accept the appointment, but consented to serve as acting president. He felt that the state of his health was such that he could not give the college the time and attention which it demanded.

The history of Antioch College would not be complete without mentioning the names of some of the men who have been connected with it, either as teachers or students. A study of its graduates shows that more than half of them later taught school, while practically all of them engaged in some business or professional career. Among the most notable men who have been connected with Antioch may be mentioned the following: Dr. Thomas Hill, who went from Antioch to the presidency of Harvard University; Prof. C. W. Russell, for many years vice-president of Cornell University; Dr. Edward Orton, the first president of Ohio State University; President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University; Prof. James K. Hosmer, the historian and for many years professor of history in the University of St. Louis; Prof. James E. Clark, for many years professor of mathematics in Yale University; Prof. S. C. Derby, for the past twenty-five years professor of Latin in Ohio State University; Prof. E. W. Claypole, late professor of geology, Throop College of Technology, Pasadena, California; Prof. C. H. Chandler, who went from Antioch to Ripon College; Dr. J. B. Weston, late president of the Defiance Theological School; Prof. Nicholas P. Gilman, late professor of sociology in Meadville Theological School and author of several books on social questions; Dr. Frank H. Tufts, late professor of physics in Columbia University; Dr. J. Y. Bergen, the botanist; Dr. Amos Russell Wells, managing editor of the *Christian Endeavor World*; and George H. Shull, professor of biology, Princeton University.

Dr. Amos R. Wells, editor of the *Christian Endeavor World*, a graduate of Antioch and for nine years one of its professors, said a few years ago that no other college in Ohio, according to the number of its professors and graduates, had had so many men and women of distinction in the educational and professional world as Antioch.

#### • CEDARVILLE COLLEGE.

Cedarville College was chartered in 1887 by the Legislature of the state of Ohio, but it was seven years before the institution was opened for the reception of students. It is under the control of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church, which has directed its career during the

thirty years that it has been in existence. It opened for the reception of students before the present building was erected, its first term being held in the house formerly owned by Rev. Hugh McMillan where he had conducted an academy half a century before that time. In this quaint old house the first students of Cedarville College gathered on September 19, 1894, but in the following fall the new building was ready for occupancy.

The campus, the building and practically everything connected with the college has been the gift of the members of the church, although the citizens of Cedarville contributed generously to the establishment of the college irrespective of their church affiliation. The present income of the college is derived from tuition, collections from church congregations, voluntary subscriptions, voluntary donations from friends within and without the church, and interest on the endowment fund.

The credit for the beginning of the college should really be given to the generosity of William Gibson, of Cincinnati, who left a fund of twenty-five thousand dollars to be used for the establishment of a church college, the bequest being given in honor of his father, Peter Gibson, for many years a member and ruling elder in the Cincinnati Reformed Presbyterian church. A few years later, Robert M. Cooper, an elder in the Cedarville congregation, bequeathed a two-thirds interest in a large farm. Subsequent bequests of importance may be summed up as follows: John R. Lyons, of Marissa, Illinois, gave five hundred dollars as a memorial to his son, James Burney Lyons, who lost his life in the Civil War; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Harper, of Cedarville, gave five thousand dollars to found and maintain a chair in economics, provided the friends of the college raised a similar amount, the amount being readily raised, Whitelaw Reid contributing one thousand dollars toward the fund; W. J. Alford gave the old church building and fitted it up as a gymnasium, his gift being in honor of his parents, Rev. and Mrs. John Alford; and lastly, Andrew Carnegie gave the college eleven thousand seven hundred and ninety dollars for the erection of a library, the same being completed in 1908.

*College Buildings and Faculty.*—The college now has three buildings—the main building, erected in 1895; the gymnasium, known as the Alford Memorial, which was fitted out in 1902; the library, opened in 1908. The attendance has been averaging about one hundred a year, and since the establishment of the college there have been 206 graduates. There are a number of collegiate courses offered, all leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. There is also a course in agriculture; a course in education, courses leading to the degree of Master of Arts and several courses in theology; also courses in home economics and music. The first summer school was opened in 1915

and 142 students were enrolled; in 1916 there were 130 students; in 1917 there were 118 students.

The college has had only two presidents during its career: Rev. David McKinney, D. D., LL. D., of Cincinnati, was the first president and served until June, 1915. At that time Rev. Wilbert Renwick McChesney, Ph. D., D. D., was elected president, and was inaugurated on the 12th of the following November. The faculty now numbers fifteen members, and for the year 1917-18 consists of the following in addition to the president: Frank Albert Jurkat, A. M., LL. D., treasurer and professor of modern languages and history; Rev. Leroy Allen, Ph. B., dean and registrar and Harper professor of Latin, Bible and sociology; Anna Margaret Schneder, A. B., professor of English and German; Helen Pauline Oglesbee, director of the department of music; John Edmiston Bauman, A. B., C. E., professor of science and mathematics; Rev. Arthur St. Clair Sloan, A. B., professor of Spanish and education; Ralph Stewart Elder, A. M., secretary to president and dean, instructor in Greek; Allen Bird Turnbull, assistant in chemistry; William Rife Collins, instructor in physics; Sherman O. Lining, instructor in mathematics; Grace Morton, A. B., instructor in home economics; Mrs. W. H. McGervey, instructor in voice, and Mary Lucile Gray, librarian.

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY OF XENIA.

There is but one theological seminary in America that may with any show of reason contest the claim of Xenia Seminary to be the oldest theological school on the Western continent; that one is the seminary of the Reformed church in America, located at New Brunswick, New Jersey. Although the Dutch church had had an organized existence in America as early as 1628 it was subject to the Classis of Amsterdam and was not authorized to educate and ordain ministers. It was not until after its independence of the mother church had been recognized in 1771 that this authority was claimed; and inasmuch as the Revolutionary War followed soon after, the right was not exercised until after the Rev. John H. Livingston's election as professor of theology in 1784.

*The Associate Church.*—In the summer of 1753 the Rev. Alexander Gellatly and the Rev. Andrew Arnot came into the valley of the Susquehanna in Pennsylvania, and, as they had been directed to do by the mother church in Scotland, on November 2 of that year, they organized themselves into a presbytery, which they styled the "Associate Presbytery of Pennsylvania." Its growth in twenty-three years justified a division of forces, and on May 20, 1776, the presbytery of New York began to be. Very soon after its organization this presbytery recognized the Rev. Robert Annan, D. D., as an instructor in theology by the ordination of his first student—his own brother,



David—in 1778; and by the licensure of his second student, Mr. William Morrison, in 1782. In 1778 the presbytery of Pennsylvania made provision for theological training within its borders by the appointment of the Rev. John Smith, of Octoraro, Lancaster county, “to direct the studies of such men as were preparing to pursue their studies with a view to the holy ministry.”

Dr. Annan and Mr. Smith received students in their own homes. The teacher was the school. Where the professor was there was the seminary. Both had been enthusiastic advocates of union with the Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter) church, and in 1782 had cast in their lot with the resultant organization, the Associate Reformed church, Mr. Smith continuing for some eight or ten years his work as theological teacher in that body. The entire presbytery of New York entered into this union, but five members of the presbytery of Pennsylvania as it was constituted at the time the vote was taken—two ministers and three elders—refused to accept the proposed basis, and so the organization of the Associate church was preserved. A little more than one year after this action of the presbytery of Pennsylvania the Associate synod of Scotland, in answer to a petition from the “remnant,” sent over the Rev. John Anderson. He reached Philadelphia in the autumn of 1783, and was joined by the Rev. Thomas Beveridge in the spring of 1784. The interests of the Associate church and of the United Presbyterian church were nobly served by these two men. The former was the founder of the theological seminary at Service, Pennsylvania, in 1794, and for more than a quarter of a century the sole professor. Doctor Beveridge was first named by the presbytery to the professorship, but he declined the appointment because he believed Doctor Anderson to be the better qualified to fill the position; however, a son who bore the father’s name, Thomas Beveridge, was called to render a like service to his church at Canonsburg, to which place the seminary had been transferred in 1821. After twenty-five years of the labor of love there he removed to Xenia, on the second change of location, and for sixteen years longer he exercised a hallowing influence upon the young men whose good fortune it was to receive his instruction. His period of service was the longest save one, that of Doctor Moorehead, in the one hundred and twenty-two years of the seminary’s history.

John Anderson must have been about thirty-five years old at the time of his coming to America. He had practically given up the distinctive work of the ministry. He had been licensed as a probationer for that office several years before, but owing to his very unimpressive personal presence, his weak voice and diffident manner, he received no encouragement to aspire to the pastorate of any of the congregations of the church in Scotland. Nevertheless his brethren had not failed to recognize his great gifts of mind and of

heart, and his thorough furnishing through diligent study and exercise for any service he might be called to render as a minister of the gospel. Consequently, when the petition came from their representatives in the new world, Mr. Anderson was at once selected as the man to go to their assistance. Their estimate of his attainments may well be expressed in the words of one of them, Doctor Nisbet, who said of him that, "Such a body of divinity had never before crossed the Atlantic."

Had the conditions that occasioned his entrance upon his mission to America not risen; had the question of union with the Reformed Presbyterian church not been opened, or, had the action of the Associate church in this matter been unanimous, in either case there can scarcely be a doubt that the appointment of the Rev. John Smith as instructor in theology would have been continued, as it was indeed continued by the Associate Reformed church. In this event the origin of the Associate Theological Seminary might properly be carried back to the year 1778, anticipating that of the New Brunswick Seminary by six years. But had a divinity school been established under such auspices it may well be questioned whether it would have been marked by the exalted character which distinguished the Service Seminary from its beginning. The two teachers were nearly of one age. They were both students of the younger Moncrieff, and in general scholarship and theological acquirement they were quite equally ranked. In oratorical power John Anderson may scarcely be compared with John Smith, but in the better, worthier elements that enter into personal character the former was immeasurably the superior.

Brief mention may properly be made in this connection of certain characteristics of Dr. Anderson which reveal the man, as his brethren—especially his students—knew him. Two of the latter class, Dr. Thomas Beveridge and Dr. Alexander McClelland, have left sketches of his life and work. Written long after Doctor Anderson's death, their affectionate tributes to the memory of their teacher and friend furnish signal proof of the profound impression that he had made upon their minds and hearts. Unquestionably, as these students saw him and as others associated with him marked him, he must have possessed in notable degree that grace which our Lord distinguishes as meriting the first beatitude. This spirit of meekness and lowliness was all the more noticeable because his natural temperament made him somewhat easily provoked and impatient of contradiction. Occasionally in earnest discussion of vital principles the law in his members would gain a momentary ascendancy. "This did not often happen, but when it did, he would at once withdraw that he might be alone with God, and on his return he would manifest the deepest penitence and would solicit again and again the pardon of those against whom he had spoken with severity, confessing with the greatest grief this infirmity of his nature. The poverty in spirit that was so manifest in the

life of Doctor Anderson was accompanied by the complementary grace of godliness in such degree as elicited from his students a tribute of reverence as profound as may warrantably be tendered to mortal man. Doctor Beveridge writes: "The trait of character for which he was most eminent, and which made him seem like one not belonging to the age in which he lived was his extraordinary piety. Few if any in modern times have lived so near heaven as did this venerable man. A large portion of his time, both evening and morning, he spent in secret prayer, in reading the Scriptures and in spiritual conversation."

*The Seminary at Service.*—It was left with Doctor Anderson to make selection of a site for the seminary building which should serve as the center of theological training for the Associate church. For his own convenience he decided upon a location near his own cabin home, since the duties of his double pastoral charge required him to remain within its bounds; and for the accommodation of the students a small two-story log house was erected. Here, from 1794 until 1821, the school of the prophets that was to have so large place in the life of the church remained, sheltering and furnishing for their office as ministers of the Word young men who came from regions near at hand or far removed. Probably at no time were there more than ten students in attendance, and usually there were but five or six; yet the expense of time and labor in serving these was as great as if the number had many times been multiplied.

It had often been admitted that a change of location would be desirable, especially in view of the inconvenience that was experienced by students from distant points who must journey over great stretches of sparsely settled territory; but so long as Doctor Anderson might be able to perform the duties laid upon him no one would venture to propose a removal. However, when in 1819 the venerable professor announced his purpose to resign his office, plans were laid for the establishment of an eastern branch of the seminary at Philadelphia. They were carried out in 1820 by the election of the Rev. John Banks, D. D., to be the head of the new institution. Doctor Banks was at that time pastor of an Associate church in that city, and also filled a professorship in the University of Pennsylvania. He was a linguist of great attainment—without superior in America at that day—and was eminently qualified to lead students out into the vast fields of Biblical literature. Doctor Banks was the sole professor in the Philadelphia branch from its opening until his death in 1826. No successor was selected, as the impression began to prevail that it would be the part of wisdom for the synod to return to the policy of maintaining one seminary. Accordingly the eastern contingent was reunited with the western in 1828.

*The Seminary at Canonsburg.*—The Service Seminary continued to hold the field in the west until the election of the Rev. James Ramsey, of Canons-

burg, Pennsylvania, to succeed Doctor Anderson. In this case, as was the rule in those days, the professor was the seminary, and the parsonage, located on a farm one mile from the town, became the resort of young candidates for the ministry. While the action of synod uniting the two divisions of the seminary was taken in 1828 it was not fully carried out until 1830, when it was resolved to erect a building in Canonsburg and to consummate the union by electing Doctor Ramsey to the professorship of the reunited branches. The choice of Canonsburg as the new site of the seminary was for many reasons most favorable. The town was a center of educational influence of the most pronounced religious type. It may well be reckoned also as, at that time, the very heart of the Associate church. The service rendered to the cause of Christ at home and abroad during the seminary's continuance there—a full generation, 1821-1855—is incalculably great.

*The Seminary at Xenia.*—Deeming it wise to conserve and also to increase her interests in the rapidly expanding western fields, the synod determined to make another change of location for the seminary; accordingly it was transferred to Xenia, Ohio, in 1855. Dr. Abraham Anderson, who had occupied the chair of didactic and polemic theology for eight years, 1847-1855, died on the 8th of May of the latter year, and at the next succeeding meeting of synod the Rev. Samuel Wilson, D. D., pastor of the Associate congregation of Xenia, was chosen as his successor. The one remaining professor at Canonsburg, Dr. Thomas Beveridge, had been pastor of the same congregation from 1821 to 1824; hence these teachers were not strangers to each other nor to the community to which the seminary was now to be removed. Establishment in the new quarters was somewhat delayed owing to the unfinished state of the building provided, but when this had been completed the seminary was quite as comfortably domiciled as similar institutions of that day. In 1879 a larger and more commodious building was acquired through purchase and exchange, affording, in addition to class-room and library, dormitory privileges for fifty students. This building is now wholly reserved for the accommodation of the young men of the seminary—the new structure, dedicated October 10, 1905, and designated "Anderson Hall," furnishing chapel, library and recitation rooms.

*The Seminary of the Associate Reformed Church.*—The Xenia Theological Seminary claims to have succeeded also to the rights and titles of Oxford and Monmouth, hence a brief sketch of these seminaries will be given in this connection.

The founding of Oxford Seminary dates from the year 1837, when, at its meeting in October of that year, the Associate Reformed synod resolved to remove its seminary from Pittsburgh to Oxford, Ohio. The eastern part of this church was not pleased with this action, and at the next meeting of synod the opposition was sufficiently strong to revoke the order of the former

meeting, and also to transmit to the presbyteries an overture to determine the permanent location of the seminary. At the same time the question of a division of the synod into two coordinate synods, subordinate to a delegated general synod, was placed before the church in overture. The result of the vote in presbyteries was held to justify this division, and to warrant the retention of the seminary at Pittsburgh and the establishment of another at Oxford, each seminary to be under the control of the synod in whose bounds it had location. The first session of the Oxford Seminary was opened late in the autumn of 1839, the Rev. Joseph Claybaugh, D. D., and the Rev. S. W. McCracken having the work in charge. Doctor Claybaugh was practically the sole professor from the date of the opening until that of his death, September 9, 1855. Temporary arrangements were made for students in attendance during the session 1855-1856, and at the meeting of the synod held in the latter year, the Rev. Alexander Young, D. D., was chosen to succeed Doctor Claybaugh, and the appointment of the Rev. William Davidson, D. D., as temporary instructor was continued. Doctor Young entered upon the work to which he had been called in the fall of 1855; but at the meeting of synod in 1857 action was taken in view of the prospect for union with the Associate church, transferring the seminary to Monmouth, Illinois, in order that one of the four seminaries of the united church might be in the west. Doctor Young accompanied the seminary to its western home, and in connection with Dr. John Scott, continued with it throughout the whole period of its history in Monmouth. Dr. A. M. Black also served the church as teacher in this seminary from 1864 to 1874, and Dr. David A. Wallace from 1867 to 1870. In 1874 a second removal was made and Monmouth Seminary was consolidated with the Xenia Seminary, one of the conditions of the transfer being that the synod of Illinois should share in the management of Xenia Seminary, and the Second synod should join in the control of Monmouth College.

*Professors.*—During the one hundred and twenty-three years of the seminary's history, under various names and in different places, in all twenty-nine men have served as professors for more or less extended periods of time, as follows: John Anderson, 1794-1819; John Banks, 1820-26; James Ramsey, 1821-42; David Carson, 1834; Thomas Beveridge, 1835-55; Thomas Beveridge, 1855-71; Joseph Claybaugh, 1839-55; Samuel W. McCracken, 1839-40; James Martin, 1842-46; Abraham Anderson, 1847-55; Samuel Wilson, 1855-75; William Davidson, 1855-58; Alexander Young, 1855-57; Alexander Young, 1858-74; John Scott, 1858-74; Joseph Clokey, 1858-73; Andrew M. Black, 1864; David A. Wallace, 1867-70; David A. Wallace, 1883; William Bruce, 1871-80; James G. Carson, 1873-88; William G. Moorehead, 1873-1914; Jackson B. McMichael, 1873-78; James Harper, 1879-99; David MacDill, 1884-1902; Wilbert W. White, 1889-94; John D. Irons, 1895-1905; Joseph Kyle, 1899; Jesse Johnson, 1902; John E. Wishart, 1905; John H.

Webster, 1908; Melvin G. Kyle, 1914. The last five now constitute the faculty.

*Present Conditions.*--The service rendered by this seminary has been of such character as to call out in many instances kindly recognition on the part of the church. Bible institutes and theological seminaries located in larger cities have made specious representations of the supposed advantages, ecclesiastical and sociological, which may be found in such communities. It may be said for Xenia that, in the exemplifications of standards of pulpit ministration and in the provision made for practical Christian service, her churches are not one whit behind those of more populous places; while her public institutions open to evangelistic ministry afford the student the finest fields for exercise such as will fit him for his calling in after years. It may rightfully be claimed also, that every sociological problem with which the present-day pastor will be confronted may be met as definitely and studied as thoroughly in the cities that have ten thousand inhabitants as in those that have a population of half a million. On the present home of the seminary there has been no extravagant outlay, but in all things that minister to the student's health, comfort, convenience, and recreation, Xenia's buildings and grounds are second to none in all the land; while in point of helpful influence, social, moral and spiritual, no other community furnishes better advantages. The rooms of the dormitory are all large and well ventilated, are furnished throughout and are warmed by steam.

In closing this sketch it will not be out of place to direct attention to the fact that Xenia's graduates constitute thirty-six and one-half per cent. of the ministry of the United Presbyterian church at the present time, not reckoning native ministers of India and Egypt. At least ten other seminaries have representatives among those of the other sixty-three and one-half per cent. of the church's ministerial strength. Of the 559 ministers in the part of the church west of Pennsylvania to the Pacific coast according to the Assembly's minutes, 269 are graduates of Xenia Seminary, but ten less than one-half. The seminary is under the direction of a board of managers representing the Second synod (Ohio and Indiana), the synod of Illinois, the synod of Iowa, the synod of Kansas and the synod of Nebraska, of the United Presbyterian church, with the following officers: President, C. P. Proudfit, D. D., Des Moines, Iowa; vice-president, John A. Henderson, D. D., Dayton, Ohio; secretary, Jesse Johnson, D. D., Xenia; assistant secretary, T. Dales Kyle, Xenia. The board of trustees for the current term (1917-19) is composed of B. R. McClellan, M. D., Xenia; J. M. Prugh, Dayton, Ohio; John C. Williamson, Xenia; A. S. Frazer, LL. D., Xenia; D. M. Stewart, Xenia; James Carson, Springfield, Ohio; Hon. C. H. Kyle, Xenia; J. S. McCampbell, D. D. S., Xenia; T. D. Kyle, Xenia; Joseph Kyle, D. D., LL. D., Xenia, ex-officio member, with the following officers: President, Joseph Kyle, D. D., LL. D.; sec-

retary, Jesse Johnson, D. D.; assistant secretary, T. Dales Kyle, and treasurer, J. H. McVay, all of Xenia.

The consultative members of both boards are Jesse Johnson, D. D., J. E. Wishart, D. D., J. H. Webster, D. D., and M. G. Kyle, D. D., LL. D., and the ladies' visiting and advisory committee is composed of the following: Mrs. Joseph Kyle, Xenia, president; Mrs. J. H. Webster, Xenia, vice-president; Mrs. J. F. Hutchison, Xenia; Mrs. W. G. Moorehead, Xenia; Mrs. W. C. Hutchison, Xenia; Mrs. D. MacDill, Xenia; Mrs. Jesse Johnson, Xenia; Mrs. J. E. Wishart, Yellow Springs; Mrs. J. H. McVay, Xenia; Mrs. T. Dales Kyle, Xenia, and Mrs. M. G. Kyle, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The following compose the members of the faculty: Joseph Kyle, D. D., LL. D., president of the seminary, professor of systematic theology and homiletics; Jesse Johnson, D. D., professor of church history and apologetics; J. E. Wishart, D. D., professor of Hebrew exegesis and Old Testament literature; J. H. Webster, D. D.; professor of Greek exegesis and New Testament literature; M. G. Kyle, D. D., LL. D., Newberg professor of Biblical theology, and Biblical archaeology; Huber Ferguson, D. D., lecturer on religious education; professors emeritus, J. G. Carson, D. D., LL. D., and J. D. Irones, D. D., LL. D., (deceased June 2, 1916); officers of the faculty: President, Joseph Kyle, D. D., LL. D.; secretary, J. H. Webster, D. D.; registrar, Jesse Johnson, D. D.; librarian, J. E. Wishart, D. D.

#### WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY.

The history of Wilberforce University dates back for more than sixty years, and during the years of its existence it has been the means of educating thousands of colored people. The idea which gave rise to this institution dates back just twenty-two years earlier. The efforts culminated eventually in the projection of Union Seminary by the Ohio conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church in 1844 and of Wilberforce University by the Cincinnati conference of the Methodist Episcopal church in 1853. These two projects, outgrowth of a common idea, were merged into one institution, Wilberforce University, March 10, 1863.

In 1833, at the session of the Ohio annual conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church, the following resolution offered by Rev. Lewis Woodson, was adopted:

Resolved as the sense of this house, that common schools, Sunday schools and temperance societies are of the highest importance to all people, but more especially to our people.

Resolved that it shall be the duty of every member of this conference to do all in his power to promote and establish these institutions among our people.

Every succeeding annual conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church gave notice and took some steps toward actualizing this idea. In 1841

a committee was appointed to inquire how far the preachers were carrying out the spirit of the resolutions of preceding conferences.

On September 17, 1844, the committee reported the selection of a site twelve miles west of Columbus, containing one hundred and seventy-two acres, obtainable for one thousand seven hundred and twenty dollars or ten dollars an acre, payable in installments. The committee stated that it had been prevented by lack of funds for traveling expenses from selecting a site in Michigan as directed by the conference, thus the first school for the higher education of the negro found lodgment on Ohio soil. The plan called for organizing a seminary of learning on the manual labor plan for instruction of youth in the various branches of literature, science, agriculture and mechanic arts, also for those who wish to prepare their minds for the work of the ministry. In 1847 Union Seminary opened its doors with Rev. J. M. Brown, principal, assisted by the subsequently well known Frances Ellen Watkins Harper. Reverend Brown was succeeded by Rev. Ed. D. Davis, who remained in charge till this school was merged with Wilberforce University.

Wilberforce was the second substantial result springing from the same set of influences. The initial steps for the organization of Wilberforce were taken at the Cincinnati conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, held at Hillsboro, September 28, 1853. A committee of seven was appointed to determine the best means to promote the welfare of the colored people. On August 9, 1854, the committee met and formulated plans contemplating the establishment of a literary institution of higher order for education generally and for the purpose of preparing teachers. The committee further recommended that attempt be made by the Methodist Episcopal church to co-operate with the African Methodist Episcopal church in promoting intellectual improvement among the colored people. J. F. Wright was appointed agent to carry forward the project. October 31, 1855, the agent was authorized to negotiate for the purchase of Tawawa Springs, near Xenia. The purchase was made on May 24, 1856, through the efforts of J. F. Wright and M. French. On August 30, 1856, articles of incorporation were executed in due form establishing a body corporate under the name of "The Wilberforce University." The name was given in honor of the great English statesman and philanthropist, William Wilberforce.

Among the original board of twenty-four trustees were Gov. Salmon P. Chase, R. S. Rust, John F. Wright, Ishmael Keith, Alfred Anderson, Bishop Daniel A. Payne and Lewis Woodson, the last two of whom were active in the early efforts for Union Seminary and served on the board of both institutions, thus linking them together. The organization took place in the law office of Moses D. Gatch at Xenia. Dedication took place in October, 1856, Rev. Edward Thompson, then president of Ohio Wesleyan University, offi-



ciating. Rev. M. P. Gaddis, Jr., became the first principal, serving till June, 1857. He was succeeded by James K. Parker who served till July, 1858. On June 30, 1858, Rev. Richard S. Rust, of New Hampshire, was elected president, remaining until the spring of 1862. The catalogue of 1859-60 shows an enrollment of two hundred and seven students, probably the highest registration reached.

*Changes Effected by Civil War.*—The Civil War brought about a very radical change in the history of the school. Up to that time the chief support of the school had been Southern planters, who had been maintaining their natural children in the school. With the opening of the war their support was entirely withdrawn, and this so affected the prosperity of the school that by the close of the school year of 1861-62 it was found impossible to continue it. At this time it had about one hundred students in attendance, among whom was R. H. Cain, later a member of Congress from the state of South Carolina. The institution was closed during the summer, fall and winter of 1862-1863. There was no question during this time that it had entirely lost all the support which it had hitherto received from the Southern planters, and this fact necessitated a radical change in the management of the school. Starting out as a school for both white and colored students, it had been used solely by the latter and for this reason it was apparent that if the school were to continue it would have to look for its support to the colored race.

The next step in the history of the school was taken on March 10, 1863, at which time Bishop D. A. Payne purchased the institution, together with the fifty-two acres which surrounded the building, the whole plant being bought for ten thousand dollars. Bishop Payne was acting in behalf of the African Methodist Episcopal church, of which denomination he had been a bishop for a number of years. The buildings at this time included one main building, three stories high, containing the recitation rooms and dormitory quarters for the students; twelve cottages, nine of which belonged to the trustees, three being private houses; and a barn of sufficient size to accommodate twenty horses. The first payment was to be made on June 11, 1863, and this payment of two thousand five hundred dollars was made possible by collections from colored churches throughout the North. The title to the property was vested in the African Methodist Episcopal church, with J. A. Shorter, John G. Mitchell and D. A. Payne as trustees. Since that year the control of the school has been in the hands of the colored race, its charter specifying that two-thirds of its board of trustees must be members of the African Methodist Episcopal church, but also stipulating that no distinction must be made in officers, faculty or students because of race, sex, or creed.

The school was reopened on July 3, 1863, but only twelve students were in attendance. Bishop Payne was installed as president and John G. Mitchell

became the first principal. In the spring of 1864 two new teachers were added, Mrs. J. G. Mitchell and Esther T. Maltby, the latter serving as female principal. The winter of 1864-1865 saw the school prospering, and with the closing of the Civil War it was felt that the school would quickly attract scores and even hundreds of students from the colored race. But on the day that President Lincoln was assassinated the main building was burned to the ground. It seemed for the time being that the school was going to be doomed, but its friends came to its rescue, and temporary quarters were provided pending the raising of money for the erection of a new building. On May 3, 1865, the board of trustees determined to build a stone and brick structure to replace the one destroyed, the brick to be burned on the ground. On June 28, 1866, the corner stone of the new building, "Shorter Hall," was laid. The records of the board show that the building was not occupied till 1867 and was then in an unfinished condition, being "unplastered and unpainted." The first catalogue was issued in 1867 and showed an enrollment of fifty-eight students.

The sad plight of the university seems to have raised up friends. In April, 1867, the trustees of the Avery estate tendered \$10,000. In December, 1867, Antioch College loaned the services of two professors. The Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West voted aid to the amount of \$3,600. In 1868 the American Unitarian Association voted \$500 per annum to 1875. Hon. Gerrit Smith gave \$500 and Chief Justice Chase bequeathed \$10,000; in 1869, through Gene Howard, from the Freedman's bureau, \$3,000; largely through the efforts of John Cousins and Bishop Daniel Payne, Congress, 1870, gave \$25,000 from the Freedman's bureau. These donations re-established the university on a firm basis. The curriculum has been widened from time to time, departments created and new courses of study added. The theological department was opened in 1865; the classical and scientific department in 1867, the normal department in 1872; the combined normal and industrial department, 1887, reorganized 1896; the military department in 1894, and the academy in 1916.

*Departmental Work.*—The Payne Theological Seminary dates from June 18, 1891, although religious instruction had been given since 1865. Bishop Payne was the first dean of the seminary, being followed by Dr. John G. Mitchell. Bishop B. T. Tanner became dean in 1900, and was followed two years later by Rev. Geo. F. Woodson, a graduate of Drew Theological Seminary, who is still at the head of the seminary.

The normal department began its work in 1872. On March 19, 1887, through the efforts of President S. T. Mitchell, the Ohio Legislature, recognizing the importance of preparing competent teachers for the colored people in this state and elsewhere, was influenced to make an appropriation for the

maintenance of normal and industrial work at Wilberforce. The trustees met on July 17, 1888, and organized what was destined to become a most important branch of Wilberforce University. At this time the operations of Wilberforce University were still confined to one main building and several cottages mostly occupied by the instructors. There were fewer than two hundred students of all grades taught by six professors with the assistance of some student instructors.

In 1890 O'Neill Hall was erected as the first of the state buildings. This was followed by several frame buildings of a more or less temporary character, constructed to house the infant industries. At this time the president of Wilberforce University acted as superintendent of the combined normal and industrial department.

In 1896 Governor Bushnell became interested in the progress of the department and as a result of recommended legislation the Legislature then in session completely reorganized the Combined Normal and Industrial Department, giving it an independent board of nine trustees, the majority of whom must be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. The department was also placed upon a permanent financial basis similar to the other state educational institutions. The board was given exclusive control and empowered to prescribe courses, elect officers and teachers, and expend the funds appropriated for its use free from interference of any and all other influences.

Prof. J. P. Shorter served as superintendent from 1896 to 1910. During that period five buildings were added to the department, viz.: Arnett hall, girls' dormitory; Howells hall; a light, heat and power plant; Poindexter hall, housing the printing and drawing departments; and Galloway hall, the largest and handsomest building on the grounds, equipped as administration building and auditorium. The vacancy left by the death of J. P. Shorter in 1910 was filled by the appointment of William A. Joiner, the present superintendent. When Professor Joiner took up the work in 1910 he found the department facing a deficit, but he soon had the department in good shape and has since been making it one of the most valued features of the university. During the seven years that he has had charge of the department it has received more than six hundred thousand dollars from the state, and this amount has enabled him to build up the department to a point where it is the peer of any similar department in the colored schools of the United States.

In 1912 S. T. Mitchell hall was erected as a model home for the senior girls; 1914, Mechanic Arts building, to house the carpentry department; blacksmithing and machine shops; 1915-16, five modern cottages, constructed by the students; 1916, Tawawa hospital, pronounced one of the most complete little hospitals in the state; 1917-18, a recitation building, Bundy hall, and

Beacom gymnasium. These with a complete water system and softening plant constitute the structural improvements made since 1910 under the combined normal and industrial department. These improvements with current expenses have called for an expenditure of about six hundred and fifty thousand dollars, which the state has willingly appropriated. The valuation of the combined normal and industrial department is now nearly three-quarters of a million dollars. There are twenty-three instructors and three hundred and thirty-seven students. Under this department the first summer normal was organized and much valuable extension work is being done.

The trustees of the Combined Normal and Industrial Department are as follows: Dr. W. A. Galloway, president, Xenia; J. H. Jones, vice-president, Wilberforce; J. S. Jackson, secretary, Cleveland; M. W. Beacom, Cleveland; E. C. Berry, Athens; Charles Bundy, Toledo; Clarence Gardner, Springfield; George W. Hays, Cincinnati; William S. Scarborough, Wilberforce. President Galloway has been a member of the board of trustees practically all the time since the department has been in existence, and has always been very active in his support of the school. One of the buildings is named in his honor.

The school has shown its largest growth since 1910. During this period its instructors have increased from 20 to 41, the students from 290 to 600, and the buildings from 11 to 24. Students are now enrolled from every corner of the United States, from Canada, South America, Africa, the Bermuda Islands and the West Indies. The growth has been due in the main to the efforts of President W. S. Scarborough, Hallie Q. Brown and others in securing gifts from philanthropists like Andrew Carnegie and Kezia Emery, to the growing interest and increased aid of the state of Ohio, and to the administration of W. A. Joiner, superintendent of the Combined Normal and Industrial Department, whose work since 1910 has more than doubled the value of the buildings and equipment of that department. The total value of the institution is now about \$850,000. Its land holdings amount to 200 acres of excellent land. The buildings on the grounds number 24, of which 14 are used for school purposes, either for instruction or as dormitories, while 10 others are occupied as private residences.

*Other Features.*—Wilberforce has had a military department since 1894. On January 9 of that year President Cleveland detailed Lieut. John H. Alexander to organize a military department at the university and become identified with the institution as instructor in military science and tactics. Wilberforce was the first colored school in the United States to receive such recognition at the hands of the government, and is still the only one receiving such government recognition. The war department has supplied arms, cannon and equipment to the university to the value of four thousand dollars. Since the military department was established in 1894 the following officers

of the regular army have been detailed to the school: Lieut. John H. Alexander, 1894; Lieut. Charles Young and Lieut. B. O. Davis, Tenth Cavalry, 1905-1909; Lieut. John E. Green, Twenty-fifth Infantry, 1909-1913; Capt. B. O. Davis, since 1913. The university has entered into an agreement with the war department whereby the school is to be recognized as a military training station. It is worthy of note that nineteen men from the school attended officers' training camps in 1917 and received commissions, while a number of other students who had had military training in the school joined the service in some capacity. Twelve received commissions at the camp at Des Moines in the spring of 1918.

From the beginning of the school it has been necessary to give elementary schooling to some of the students, and the work of the academic department was closely allied with the college department up to the summer of 1916. Nearly all the college teachers also taught in the academic department, and at times some of the elementary classes were in charge of advanced students of the college department. The need for a regularly organized academic department, however, became recognized, and on June 14, 1916, the board of trustees voted to establish a separate department to be known as the Academy. A principal was placed in charge of the newly organized department, the work being outlined to cover the course as provided by the first-grade high schools of Ohio. A diploma is granted to students completing the full course.

*Faculty.*—The members of the faculty of the college of liberal arts is as follow: William Sanders Scarborough, president; Theophilus Gould Stewart, vice-president and professor of history; Gilbert H. Jones, dean and professor of philosophy; Bruce Henry Green, professor of chemistry and physics; George W. Henderson, professor of Latin and instructor in German; Amos J. White, professor of Greek; Dudley W. Woodard, professor of mathematics; Ida Francis Horton, instructor in instrumental music.

The faculty of the Payne Theological Seminary includes the following members: William S. Scarborough, professor of philosophy and Greek literature; Rev. George F. Woodson, dean and professor of systematic theology and New Testament Greek; Rev. A. W. Thomas, professor of Hebrew and archaeology; Rev. P. S. Hill, professor of historical theology and moral philosophy; Rev. Thomas H. Jackson, professor of Biblical introduction and practical theology.

The faculty of the Combined Normal and Industrial Department, which includes more members than all the other departments combined, is constituted as follows: William A. Joiner, superintendent; Hugh M. Browne, director of vocational training; Sarah C. Bierce Scarborough, English and methods; George Thompson Simpson, instructor in theory of music and voice culture; Charles Henry Johnson, instructor in drawing; William Madison Hunnicut, instructor in shoemaking; Charles Shelton Smith, instructor

in shorthand and typewriting; Julia Carmen Gee, instructor in plain sewing and dressmaking; Frederick Alphonso McGinnis, instructor in printing; Jesse Edward Ormes, instructor in bookkeeping and business practice; George R. Thompkins, Samuel J. Richards, instructor in carpentry and cabinet work; Sadie E. Overton, director of secondary training; Mary S. Booth, instructor in nurse training; A. C. Ginn, instructor in blacksmithing; William M. Berry, instructor in agriculture; Ethel M. Jones, instructor in millinery; Leanora Carrington, instructor in primary methods; George Ewing, instructor in plumbing and sanitary engineer; Lucinda Cook, director of elementary training; Anna O. H. Williamson, critic teacher; Charles P. Blackburn, instructor in physical training; Jane M. Hunley, instructor in cooking; L. F. Palmer, instructor in library economy; J. D. Newsom, instructor in stationary engineering.

The faculty of the academic department is as follows: Lutrelle F. Palmer, instructor in Latin; Hallie Q. Brown, instructor in English; Bernice Sanders, instructor in mathematics; and four others connected with the faculty of the Combined Industrial and Normal Department, namely: Sadie Overton, history and civics; Amos J. White, German; William M. Berry, agriculture; George T. Simpson, vocal music; Charles H. Johnson, drawing.

*Cross-Sectional View of Wilberforce University.*—The following summary of Wilberforce University sets forth in a brief and comprehensive manner a bird's-eye view of the institution as it stands today. The dates following the various buildings are the years of their erection:

<i>Arts and Sciences, Classical Department.</i>	<i>Theological Seminary.</i>	<i>Combined Normal and Industrial Department.</i>
Kezia Emery Hall, 1913.....		Arnett Hall, 1901 E. T. Mitchell Hall, 1912
Shorter Hall, 1867.....	J. G. Mitchell Hall, 1891.	O'Neill Hall, 1890
Shorter Hall, 1867..... Carnegie Library, 1907.....	J. G. Mitchell Hall.....	Model School, 1889 Arnett Hall, 1901 O'Neill Hall, 1890 Howell's Hall, 1900 Light, Heat and Power Plant, 1904 Poindexter Hall, 1904 Galloway Hall, 1905 Mechanic Arts, 1914 Tawawa Hospital, 1916 Bundy Hall, 1917 Beacom Gymnasium, 1918
Faculty: 11 members.....	4 members.....	23 members
Departments: Three .....	Two .....	Twelve
Students: 202 .....	32 .....	337

Dormitories for girls are maintained in Kezia Emery, Arnett and E. T. Mitchell halls; for boys in Shorter, J. G. Mitchell and O'Neill halls. Two of these halls—Kezia Emery and E. T. Mitchell—are used exclusively for dormitory purposes, the other four also containing class rooms.

## CHAPTER XXX.

### CHURCHES OF GREENE COUNTY.

The church made its appearance in Greene county with the first influx of settlers. Even before the county was organized in 1803 some of the settlers were holding religious services in their homes. The Presbyterians and Methodists came in with the organization of the county, and while there were other denominations represented, yet these were the prevailing denominations for several years after the county was organized. The Friends were early to be found in Silvercreek township, but they have never been numerous in the county. Other Protestant denominations appeared and organized congregations before the time of the Civil War, and practically all now found in the county were well established prior to the '60s. The Catholic church dates from 1844 in Xenia and the other Catholic congregations are of later date.

A study of the religious life of the county reveals some very interesting facts. It is well known that the rural church is fast disappearing, and this is as true of Greene county as of all other counties in the United States, at least twenty-five churches that once had flourishing congregations here having been abandoned. An intimate study of the churches of the county shows that there have been at least one hundred and two organized within the limits of the county. They have been divided among the townships of the county as follows: Bath, 7; Beavercreek, 7; Caesarscreek, 9; Cedarville, 9; Jefferson, 5; Miami, 10; New Jasper, 2; Ross, 44; Silvercreek, 10; Spring Valley, 8; Sugarcreek, 8; Xenia, 25.

A number of churches have irregular services throughout the year; others have services only in the summer months; a few have but one or two meetings in the year. Some have Sunday school every Sabbath, and others have Sunday school only in the summer. An effort has been made to present a complete history of all the active churches of the county, but it has not been possible to get sufficient data from some churches in order to make a complete sketch. All the churches were asked to furnish the necessary data for a brief historical sketch and most of them promptly supplied the information, while a few unfortunately neglected to do so. Some churches have kept no records, and many keep them in such a shape that they are of little value for historical purposes, but most of the larger churches have well-kept records.



## UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

Historically, the United Presbyterian church, as such, dates from 1858, in which year a union was effected between the Associate and the Associate Reformed churches, the ecclesiastical connection thus formed being thereafter known as the United Presbyterian church, a religious denomination which is strongly represented in Xenia and throughout Greene county. Any attempt therefore to present a history of the United Presbyterian church in Greene county must be based upon a review of the conditions which led to the settlement here in the days, even before Greene county had a separate civic identity, of that doughty band of Kentucky colonists of Scotch birth or descent which came up here into the beautiful valley of the Little Miami in order to find in the new "free" state of Ohio a way of life denied to them in the slave state to the south. Some of these had come up here as early as the spring of 1798, in the days before Ohio was admitted to statehood, and others came in from time to time until there presently came to be a sufficient number of these Scotch settlers along the banks of the Little Miami and along Massies creek to warrant the organization of a formal church of the connection to which they devoutly held, and it was thus that there was extended a call to the Rev. Robert Armstrong, a Scottish divine, who had been serving as pastor of the united congregations of the followers of the Associate faith at Dales Fork, Millars Run and Cane Run, in the vicinity of Lexington, Kentucky, a number of the families above referred to as having come here from Kentucky having previously enjoyed his ministrations during the time of their residence in the Blue Grass state. In the published recollections of Andrew Galloway, who had a first-hand knowledge of the organization of the old Associate (Seceder) congregation on Massies creek, that writer makes reference to a trip his father, James Galloway, who had settled here with his family in the spring of 1798, had made to Kentucky in the year 1802 with his brother James, the two having "called for several days on my uncle, Samuel Galloway, who lived on McConnells run, near where Mr. Armstrong preached and was about to dispense the Lord's Supper. They became acquainted and united with him in the communion of the Lord's Supper, after which they went on to Louisville."

## THE COMING OF THE REV. ROBERT ARMSTRONG.

"On their return," continues the Galloway reminiscences, "they stayed a day or two with my uncle, Samuel Galloway, and waited on the ministry of Mr. Armstrong and invited and insisted on him to come to Ohio and preach in our neighborhood; George Galloway was urgent in this request and he agreed if they and the people wished it he would come. After their return they consulted with all the people around, for they were few in number, but

were anxious for preaching and delegated my brother James for him to go to Kentucky. He went, and shortly afterward wrote for George Galloway to meet him in Dayton to pilot him to our settlement, there being no roads but the one General Wayne had made from Cincinnati to Hamilton, and a 'trace' to where Dayton now is. His request was fulfilled. Mr. Armstrong came and preached at my father's home to the following families: Matthew Quinn, Alexander Forbes, William Junkin, Elias Bromagen, Widow Criswell, who united with his congregation in Kentucky and came to Ohio in 1801, Alexander McCoy and sons, James and John Stevenson, Thomas and John Townsley, brothers, George Galloway and James Galloway (blacksmith) and afterward, soon, Joseph Kyle, Sr., and his two sons, Joseph and Samuel, Col. James Morrow, David Laughead, Sr., and his family, William and Robert Kendall and perhaps a few others. He also preached at Sugar Creek, in the house of James Clancy, who resided where Bellbrook is now situated, to a number of families, of whom the following are recollected: John and Joseph McKnight, Joseph C. Vance, father of Governor Vance, and his brother John, Capt. Nathan Lamme and family, William Tanner, James and Jacob Snowden, three Snodgrass families, James, William and Robert, Abraham Van Eaton and perhaps a few others; none named were members of the Associate church, but were members of the Associate Reformed and Presbyterian churches, and were glad to hear Mr. Armstrong preach.

"During his stay among us a number solicited him to come and take the oversight of them as their pastor. This he did not refuse or promise to do, but stated that he was dissatisfied with Kentucky on account of slavery. He said that slaveholders were buying large tracts of land in branches of his congregation and that there was no chance nor probability of increasing. He said if he could get his congregation or part of them, to come to Ohio, he would agree to come, if called. The people took his statement as encouraging and forthwith agreed to petition to the presbytery for the moderation of a call. My brother James presented the petition to the presbytery as a delegate from the congregation. They granted the petition and appointed Rev. Andrew Fulton to moderate the call. A short time after this appointment he preached in my father's barn and baptized my sister Ann and brother Anthony, it being the first baptism ever administered in Greene county by the Associate church, and took place about the 1st of September, 1804. The call was made out in due form and John McKnight, of Sugar Creek, and my father were appointed commissioners by the people to meet with the presbytery of Kentucky and urge the acceptance of the call. This they did and Mr. Armstrong accepted it.

## PIONEER MINISTER ESTABLISHES HOME.

"In the same month Mr. Armstrong went to Tennessee and was married to Miss Nancy Andrew and in October left Tennessee with his wife and her brother, Hugh Andrew, who all arrived safely at my father's house and lived in his family all winter and spring, until he got a cabin built and a stone chimney in it, for he was afraid of a wooden one. My father entered and paid in the land office at Cincinnati, fractional section No. 29, township 4, range 7, between the Great and Little Miami rivers, containing four hundred and sixty-one acres, and sold to Mr. Armstrong three hundred and one acres for the sum of six hundred and twenty dollars, and deeded the same to him in 1812. Mr. Armstrong lived on said section to the year 1813, when he sold and deeded to Samuel Goe for the sum of two hundred and ninety dollars, and bought again on Clarks run forty-eight and three-fourths acres of land from John Hunter, of Ross county, for which he paid one hundred and seventy dollars, and two hundred acres from James Galloway, Jr., for which he paid three hundred dollars. This sale and purchase left Mr. Armstrong sixteen hundred and thirty dollars, no trifling sum in those days, and taking in his personal property and proceeds of his farm he might be considered a rich man. On this farm he lived until his death, which occurred on October 14, 1821.

"It is true that his congregation in Kentucky sent a delegation to Ohio of sixteen or eighteen to view the lands in the neighborhood where Mr. Armstrong was to settle, and were all pleased with it and reported accordingly. In the spring and fall of 1804 and 1805 all, or nearly all, of his congregation followed him to Ohio and settled under his ministry.

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE ASSOCIATE CONGREGATION.

"The first church edifice of the Associate congregation of Massies creek was built on three acres of land donated by James Stevenson for church and cemetery. It was built of round hickory logs with the bark peeled off, thirty feet square, covered with clapboards, the spaces between the logs being filled with clay. It was without a gallery or loft of any kind and the floor was of earth. In it were neither stoves nor chimney, and there was but one door in the center of the end of the house. There was an aisle running through the center. The pulpit was composed of clapboards on a wooden structure, with a window on each side. It was seated with two rows of puncheon split from poplar, and upper side smoothed off, and in each end was an upright from which two to three slabs were pinned and formed quite a comfortable back. This edifice was on the north side of Massies creek, about three miles from where it emptied

into the Little Miami river. Men and women would ride or walk twelve or fifteen miles to this church and sit and listen to two sermons without seeing fire in the coldest weather.

“About the year 1812 or 1813 the second church at Massies Creek was built of hewed logs, one hundred and fifty feet distant from the first one. At this date the county had improved and several mills had been built. It was about fifty feet wide, was floored and ceiled overhead with one-half-inch poplar boards. In it were placed four pews, the balance of the seats being those that had been in the first church. This church became too small for the congregation, and one side was taken out and its width increased about twelve feet. This building was used until the stone one was built (1824) and occupied by Rev. James P. Smart, about two miles north from the first site. The old site is now used as a cemetery; in it are the remains of Mr. Armstrong and a large part of the congregation. Out of Massies Creek, Sugar Creek and Xenia congregations of the Associate church, and Xenia Associate Reformed congregations has sprung the nucleus of all the congregations of the United Presbyterian church in the West.”

#### FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF XENIA.

The claim has been made, and probably with correct historical basis, that though the Associate (Seceder) church had organized congregations in Greene county, these being the churches on Massies creek and on Sugar creek, under the ministration of the Rev. Robert Armstrong, before the formal organization of a connection of the Associate Reformed church, still the latter had its organized congregation in Xenia, the county seat, before the former. Hence, since the union of these churches in 1858, the Associated Reformed has been known as the First United Presbyterian church of Xenia, and the Associate, as the Second.

Though those of the early settlers in and about Xenia holding to the tenets of the Associate Reformed faith had received occasional ministration by “supply” and even earlier through the visit of missionaries, there was no formal organization of a congregation of those holding that faith at Xenia until the year 1810, when the Rev. John Steele was delegated by the Kentucky presbytery of the Associate Reformed church to moderate a congregational meeting at Xenia and to preside at the ordination of the elders of the new congregation. At a meeting of Kentucky presbytery held at Cynthiana on September 28, 1808, a petition was received from friends at Xenia asking for supplies of preaching and the Rev. Abraham Craig was appointed to preach for them on two Sabbaths in the following September and October. In 1809 Mr. Craig preached at Xenia on four Sabbaths and early in 1810 Mr. Steele preached there on four Sabbaths and

at the meeting of presbytery held at Millersburg, Kentucky, on April 24 of this latter year was delegated to moderate the meeting called for the purpose of organizing a congregation at Xenia, as above noted. Upon the later filing of incorporation papers, under the laws of Ohio, it was noted that the congregation "decided to be known by the name and style of the Associate Reformed church of Xenia, Greene county, Ohio." Before passing from this mention of formal organization, however, it is but proper to say that the Rev. Doctor Steele had made a much earlier trip up here, notes from a diary kept by him at the time setting out that he had made a missionary journey up from Kentucky into what then was the almost pathless wilderness of the Miami valley as early as the spring of 1798, he having set out from a point near Maysville on April 17 of that year, reaching the old Indian chillicothe (now Oldtown, in this county) on the 20th and preaching at that point. On May 13 he crossed the river down into what is now Warren county and there preached at the house of Jeremiah Morrow, afterward governor of Ohio. There also is notice of his having preached at the McKnight home near Bellbrook and of tarrying at the house of James Galloway, in the vicinity of old Indian chillicothe.

In the year 1811, following the formal organization of the Associate Reformed church at Xenia, the Rev. Adam Rankin and the Rev. William Baldrige were appointed to preach at Xenia. Among the two or three ministers who were sent as occasional supplies to Xenia in the year 1812 was the Rev. James McCord, who had begun his professional career as a student of law in the office of Henry Clay, but had afterward devoted his talent to the gospel ministry. In 1813 the Xenia congregation made out a call for Mr. McCord, who, however, in the meantime had transferred his connection to the Presbyterian church, and the call was returned. Thus disappointed in their first choice of a pastor, the Xenia congregation continued to receive ministrations by occasional supplies during the years 1813, 1814, 1815, and 1816, among the ministers thus serving being noted the names of Rankin, Craig,<sup>3</sup> Risque, McFarland and Steele. In 1817 the congregation made out a call for the Rev. John Steele. This call was accepted and in that same year Mr. Steele moved to Xenia and entered upon a pastoral relation that continued until 1836, a period of nineteen years. Upon his resignation he moved to Oxford, this state, and there died on January 11, 1837.

Following the resignation and departure of their first pastor the congregation remained without a pastor for almost two years, or until in June, 1838, when a call was extended to the Rev. James R. Bonner, who accepted and who continued as pastor of this people until April 10, 1845. Mr. Bonner was succeeded by the Rev. Robert D. Harper, who was installed

as pastor in 1846 and remained until his retirement from the Associate Reform church in 1868 and transfer to the Presbyterian church. In the meantime, however, there had been effected the historic union of the Associate and Associate Reformed churches in 1858 and thereafter the First Associate Reformed church of Xenia was known as the First United Presbyterian church of Xenia. It is a matter of special note in the congregation that the first general assembly of the United Presbyterian church, in May, 1859, was held in this church. Doctor Harper was followed by the Rev. W. G. Moorehead, D. D., who accepted the congregation's call in 1871, he having just returned in that year from eight years of service as missionary in Italy. Doctor Moorehead continued as pastor of the First church until 1875, when he resigned to accept a call to the Fourth United Presbyterian church of Allegheny, Pennsylvania. He was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas H. Hanna, who continued as pastor until 1880, when he resigned to accept the pastorate of the First United Presbyterian church at Monmouth, Illinois. In 1881 the Rev. Joseph H. Wright became pastor of the First church and continued serving in that capacity until his death on March 20, 1889. In August, 1891, the Rev. W. B. Barr accepted a call to the First church, but he remained but little more than a year, resigning in December, 1892, to enter the evangelistic field. He was succeeded by the Rev. R. G. Ramsey, who was installed as pastor in September, 1893, and who continued serving the church until his resignation in February, 1901, to enter the Presbyterian church. The Rev. S. E. Martin preached his first sermon as pastor of the First church on April 6, 1902, and he continued as pastor until in May, 1913, being succeeded by the Rev. D. D. Dodds, the present pastor, who was installed in July, 1914.

The people of the First church have had four successive houses of worship, having successively outgrown three before erecting their present handsome stone church edifice on East Market street. The first "meeting house" was erected in 1811 at the corner of Detroit and Union streets and is still standing, for many years having been used as a residence, a little brick building with two front doors. It was not long until the growing congregation outgrew this little house of worship and in 1817 erected on East Church street a brick building which, after it also had been outgrown, became utilized as a store house by a local pork packer. That church building stood on a lot directly across the street from the present high-school building. In 1848 the congregation erected their third church edifice on East Market street, a building that stood outwardly unchanged for sixty-one years, except for new windows that were added when the interior was remodeled. In 1907 the congregation decided to rebuild on the site they had so long occupied and on August 16, 1908, the last sermon was preached

in the old church. The new church was completed and ready for dedication on April 10, 1910, the total cost of the furnished building being thirty-two thousand dollars, not including the cost of the pipe organ, which was the gift of generous friends of the church. The ladies of the congregation also contributed fifteen hundred dollars toward the furnishings of the church and pledged one thousand dollars towards the debt.

At the time of the celebration of the church's semi-centennial in 1860 the membership of the First church was two hundred and seventy. When the church celebrated its centennial in 1910 the membership was three hundred and five. Fourteen names appear on both rolls. In 1918 the books of the session record the names of three hundred and forty-one communicants. The Sabbath school has an enrollment of one hundred and ninety-five. Well organized auxiliaries of the church are a Woman's Missionary Society, a Young Ladies' Missionary Society, a Junior Missionary Society and a Young Peoples Society. The members of the session are: Dr. J. P. Dice, Alexander Bailey, Edwin Galloway, W. J. Cherry, C. H. Ervin, Dr. J. S. McCampbell and J. R. Nash. Mr. Nash is the oldest living member of the session and has been a member for more than fifty years.

#### SECOND UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF XENIA.

The history of beneficent influence exerted by what, since the "union" of 1858, has been known as the Second United Presbyterian church of Xenia covers a period of nearly eleven decades, the date of the formal organization of the congregation comprising that body having been October 21, 1811. As noted above, the immigration into this section of the Miami valley of Associate Presbyterians, especially from Kentucky, which began near the close of the eighteenth century, increased rapidly, and two congregations were soon organized, called, in the minutes of the presbytery of Kentucky, sometimes the Greene county congregations and sometimes the congregations of Massies Creek and Sugar Creek. Soon thereafter, according to Dill's chronicles, a log building was erected as a house of worship by the Massies Creek congregation on the plot of ground now marked by the old Massies Creek burying ground. About the same time a log building for the same purpose was erected by the Sugar Creek congregation about two miles north of Bellbrook, the members of the Associate church in and about the Xenia settlement being affiliated with one or the other of these pioneer organizations, chiefly the former, the congregations being under the joint supervision of one session, the Rev. Robert Armstrong, who had been the pastor of the majority of these settlers while in Kentucky, ministering to both congregations. In 1811 this joint session included the following ruling elders: Joseph Kyle, Thomas Simpson, John Gregg, Hugh Ham-

mill, George Galloway and James Morrow, residing in the Massies Creek settlement, and James Bain, John Torrence and William Turnbull, of the Sugar Creek settlement.

An entry in the minutes of the presbytery of Kentucky, under date of October 21, 1811, records that "Two petitions were presented, one from Massies Creek and Sugar Creek congregations, praying for the moderation of a call, which was unanimously granted." By this act of presbytery the Xenia congregation secured a separate organization, members of the Associate communion living in and in the immediate vicinity of the village by that time having attained sufficient numbers to warrant such a procedure. Sugar Creek, however, remained as a part of the charge set off as Xenia, as is shown by an extract from the minutes of the Associate synod of May, 1813, which sets out that "the petition of the associate congregations of Xenia and Sugar Creek to be disjoined from the presbytery of Kentucky and annexed to the presbytery of Chartiers" was granted. Earlier official minutes indicate a formal organization of the Associate communion at Xenia in April, 1812, and in October of that same year, reports from that congregation having been made to presbytery at both the spring and fall meetings in that year. The ruling elders residing within the limits of the two congregations, and constituted by act of presbytery, October 21, 1811, at the first session, were William Turnbull, John Torrence, James Bain and Hugh Hammill. During the first two or three years of its organization this congregation had been holding its meetings in the court house, but in 1814 a movement was carried out for the erection of a house of worship and it then became necessary to elect a board of trustees, William McClellan, James Galloway, Jr., and James Winter being elected to look after the temporal affairs of the congregation.

It is noted in the older chronicle above referred to that when the congregation at Xenia was organized the principle of elective affinity as regulating congregational connection was not regarded with favor. It was a time of congregational boundary lines. Accordingly, the first thing in order in the effecting of an organization was the establishment of a dividing line between the Massies Creek congregation on the one hand, and Xenia and Sugar Creek on the other. This line ran nearly north and south, and about one and one-half or two miles east of Xenia at its nearest point. There was no clearly defined line between Xenia and Sugar Creek congregations until January 14, 1822. Though the session was a joint session, having the supervision of both congregations, and all the members of the two congregations took part in the election of elders, still it was the understanding that each should have about equal representation both in the session and in the diaconate. Moreover, it was the understanding that each congregation



was responsible for its proportion of the pastor's salary, these mutual understandings presupposing a tacit understanding of a dividing line. Yet, to guard more certainly against difficulty, it was decided to have this line definitely fixed and this was done on the date last set out, the line running nearly north and south past the Thomas Ginn place. In 1827 the Massies Creek congregation moved its place of worship from the old site to a location on the Collins farm. In consequence of this removal a number of families of that congregation were found to be nearer to Xenia than to the new Massies Creek church and they therefore petitioned presbytery to be disjoined from Massies Creek and annexed to Xenia. Upon the granting of this petition some fourteen families were annexed to Xenia congregation and the dividing line was moved from one and one-half to two miles farther east. When, in 1833, the Sugar Creek congregation moved its place of worship from the old log church north of Bellbrook to a site on the Holmes farm, those families residing between the Little Miami and the western boundary of Xenia congregation were found so far removed from their wonted place of worship that, by act of presbytery, they ultimately were transferred to the Xenia congregation, this act virtually establishing the river as a new boundary line between the two congregations.

As noted above, the first house of worship erected by what is now the Second United Presbyterian church of Xenia was built in the year 1814 on the lot immediately west of the site occupied by the present handsome church edifice at the corner of Market and West streets. That early structure was a stone building about fifty by thirty-five feet in dimensions and in that edifice the congregation worshipped for twenty-six years, or until 1840, in which year the old church was replaced by an edifice of more ample proportions, a substantial structure seventy-five by fifty-seven feet in dimensions. In 1857 this structure was remodeled by being given an addition of six feet in height and was adorned by the raising of two towers, one at each corner fronting Market street. In 1877 further space was needed by the growing congregation and the church was again remodeled, a lecture room, forty by sixty feet in dimensions, being added, and this edifice served the needs of the congregation until in 1905, when the present attractive and commodious stone edifice was erected at a cost of twenty-seven thousand dollars. The first parsonage owned by the church was the present residence of T. Dales Kyle, on West Church street, which was purchased sometime in the '60s. Doctor Wilson refused to live in the house and lived in a home of his own while in charge of the church, his dwelling standing at the edge of the town. Shortly before Doctor Carson came to the church in 1869 the congregation had sold the parsonage, the building above mentioned, for three thousand dollars. This money was loaned to Doctor Carson when

he came here in 1869 and he applied it to the purchase of the house in which he still lives. This building, the one in which Doctor Carson lived all the time he was in charge of the church from 1869 to 1902, was always spoken of as the parsonage although it was owned by Doctor Carson and not by the church. After he resigned his pastorate in 1902 he repaid the money he had borrowed from the church, and the trustees at once purchased the present parsonage on West Market street, next to the McKinley school building. The West End chapel, owned and directed by the church, is valued at an additional seven thousand dollars.

It is apparent that for the first two or three years after the organization of this congregation its members were served by supply, though there is evidence that the congregation immediately or soon after it had been formally constructed had extended a call to the Rev. William Hume, brother-in-law of the Rev. Robert Armstrong, at that time pastor of the Associate congregation at Nashville, Tennessee, the call on him having apparently been moderated in 1811 or early in 1812, for a minute of presbytery under date of October 13, 1812, sets out that (Mr. Hume having referred the disposal of this call to presbytery) that body, after much deliberation and with great hesitancy, decided against transferring. The first pastor of the church was the Rev. Francis Pringle, the call to him having been moderated by appointment of the presbytery of Chartiers probably late in 1813, for it is noted that the call was sustained by that presbytery on April 13, 1814, and was accepted on July 19, 1814, Mr. Pringle probably having been serving as supply in the meantime. The Rev. Francis Pringle was ordained by the presbytery of Chartiers, at Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, November 29, 1814, and in pursuance of the appointment of that presbytery was installed as pastor at Xenia by the Rev. Robert Armstrong on the second Wednesday of January, 1815, his pastoral service continuing until his death on March 15, 1818. The congregation then again was served by supply while seeking a new pastor and on May 5, 1819, extended a call to the Rev. Robert Douglass, which call was declined, and later a call was extended to the Rev. Thomas Beveridge, of excellent memory, which call was accepted. The story of Doctor Beveridge's coming to Xenia is best written in his own words, written years afterward, as follows: "Having been licensed by the Associate presbytery of Chartiers in August, 1819, my appointment led me, among other places, to Xenia and Sugar Creek, which congregations I reached the 1st of November, 1819. I preached alternately in the two congregations during that month and the last two Sabbaths of the succeeding January. The two congregations united in a call to me, February 28, 1820. The salary promised was \$500, considered at that time very liberal. The presbytery of Kentucky, as it was then called (afterward Miami),

consisted of only three ministerial members—Messrs. Armstrong, Hume and Kennedy—and these at great distances from each other. In consequence of this, the call was sent to the presbytery of Cambridge, New York, to be presented. It was accepted August 2, 1820. That presbytery also received and sustained my trials for ordination. I arrived at Xenia October 4th, but was not ordained till the 9th of the next January. Mr. Hume came all the way from Nashville to assist Mr. Armstrong in that service. At this time there was great trouble in Massies Creek congregation, in consequence of which Mr. Armstrong resigned his charge.”

Doctor Beveridge's pastorate continued for four years, at the end of which time he resigned on account of his health, February, 1824, and on October 22, 1824, the congregation extended a call to the Rev. David Goodwillie, which was declined. Xenia and Sugar Creek meantime continued to be served by supply and on February 20, 1827, extended a call to the Rev. Joseph Clokey, which also was declined. By action of the presbytery of Miami the connection between Xenia and Sugar Creek was dissolved on November 10, 1828, and on January 26, 1829, Xenia extended a call to the Rev. Abraham Anderson, which was declined. On May 3, 1830, a call was extended to the Rev. Samuel Wilson, who accepted the same on September 20, following and on April 27, 1831, was formally installed as pastor at Xenia, the pastorate meanwhile having been vacant for a period of six years and five months, during which time the Rev. James Adams, who had been installed as pastor at Massies Creek, succeeded the Rev. Robert Armstrong, a short time before the resignation of Doctor Beveridge, had rendered the essential ministerial services. For twenty-five years and six months, the Rev. Samuel Wilson served as pastor at Xenia, his resignation, which was accepted by the presbytery of Miami on March 18, 1856, having been based upon synod's indication that he give his undivided attention to the duties of his position as professor of theology and Hebrew in the Xenia Theological Seminary, to which chair he had been elected in May of the preceding year. On the 1st of December, following, the congregation extended a call to the Rev. S. B. Reed, which was declined. On September 21, 1858, presbytery sustained the call extended to the Rev. R. B. Ewing and on January 20, 1859, Mr. Ewing was formally installed as pastor, Doctor Beveridge delivering the charge to the people on that occasion. Mr. Ewing was thus first pastor after the “union,” the old Associate church thenceforward being known as the Second United Presbyterian church of Xenia, the Associate Reformed church, by right of priority of organization, taking the name of the First United Presbyterian church after the union. At his own request Mr. Ewing was released from his charge on January 14, 1868, and the pulpit remained vacant, the congregation meanwhile being served

by supply, until in May, 1869, when a call was extended to the Rev. James G. Carson, at that time pastor of the congregation at Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, in the presbytery of Chartiers. This call was accepted in the following October and in the following December began Doctor Carson's long pastorate, which continued for more than thirty years, or until the pastor's voluntary retirement on September 1, 1902. About the time of the beginning of Doctor Carson's pastorate at Xenia a considerable number of the congregation—between forty and fifty members, including two of the elders—had separated themselves from the Second church and had united with about an equal number from the Reformed Presbyterian congregation to effect the organization of the Third United Presbyterian church in Xenia, thus reducing the membership of Second church to about one hundred and eighty-five; which, however, in the first fifteen months of Doctor Carson's pastorate was restored to its previous number of two hundred and thirty. During the first year of that pastorate, also, notwithstanding its diminished strength, the congregation undertook and accomplished the entire refitting and furnishing of the interior of the church, at an expense of more than three thousand dollars, the whole of which amount was subscribed and paid by the time the work was completed.

Following the resignation of Doctor Carson in 1902 there was a radical change in the history of the Second and Third United Presbyterian churches of Xenia, a change which finally resulted in the merging of the two congregations, the new congregation taking the name of the Second and the pastor of the Third. Dr. W. S. McClure had been pastor of the Third church since 1897, and became the first pastor of the new congregation upon the consolidation. Doctor McClure remained with the new church until 1912, when he resigned. The church was without a regular pastor until Rev. Huber Ferguson came in 1913, his service extending until 1917. In the fall of the latter year the present pastor, Rev. Charles P. Proudfit, was installed. The present membership is three hundred and fifty-five, and all the departments of the church are in a flourishing condition. The Sabbath school has an enrollment of three hundred and sixty-five and is under the superintendency of Wier Cooper. The Woman's Missionary Society, with Mrs. B. R. McClellan as president, has a membership of fifty; the Young People's Society has a membership of sixty-five. The West End branch of the church has a membership of fifty-five, with a Sabbath school, Heber Douthett, superintendent, of one hundred.

#### THIRD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF XENIA.

The career of the Third United Presbyterian church of Xenia began on December 9, 1869, and formally closed on March 25, 1903, at which latter date the congregations of the Second and Third United Presbyterian

churches voted to merge their congregations. The history of the Third church was carefully compiled in 1892 by J. C. McMillan, then the only living member of the original organization of 1848, and here is appended a verbatim copy of his manuscript, which now forms a part of the records of the church:

The Third Presbyterian church of Xenia was the successor of the Reformed Presbyterian church of Xenia, which was organized on February 12, 1848, under the following circumstances:

Ten families, members of the Reformed Presbyterian congregation of Massies Creek, under the care of Rev. Hugh McMillan, pastor, living in and of the vicinity of Xenia, Ohio, who for fifteen years had regularly attended there, believing that an organization was desirable in Xenia which would save traveling some twelve and fourteen miles on Sabbath, held a meeting on February 12, 1848, at which it was agreed to petition the Ohio presbytery for an organization. The petition was signed by Daniel McMillan, James C. McMillan, Alexander Wier, John Little, John B. Wright, James Bratton, Robert Cooper, William H. Stewart, William McQuiston and James Chalmers. These men, with their families, made a total proposed membership of the new church of thirty-six members.

This petition was granted and Rev. Andrew Heron, D. D., was appointed to organize the congregation, this being done on June 17th, 1848. Daniel McMillan, Alexander Wier and John Little were made elders. The Methodist Protestant church on Church street not being regularly occupied was secured for public worship, and here regular services were held until some time in 1849. In that year the congregation decided to build a church and a committee was appointed to look for a lot. Daniel McMillan, being the owner of the lots on the corner of Columbus and Market streets, valued at \$1,000, proposed to donate them to the church and also subscribe \$500 to the building fund. This was accepted. D. Crandall was employed to prepare a plan not to exceed \$4,000, for a building 42 by 62 feet. A committee was then appointed to raise the funds, and the building was erected that year, although it was not ready for regular services until April, 1850.

The deed for the property was made to Alexander Wier, John Little and James C. McMillan, trustees, and their successors in office—but with this proviso: "That should this organization cease to exist, any other ecclesiastical body adhering to the same doctrinal standard as held by the Reformed Presbyterian church should have the use of the said property for a house of worship."

Rev. G. McMaster, D. D., and Rev. Hugh McMillan preached the two first sermons at the dedication. Rev. J. A. Crawford was the first pastor and continued in charge for about seven years at an annual salary of \$500. Rev. Robert McCaslin, the second pastor, served about six years. John Armstrong and Robert Bryson were added to the session in 1854 after the death of Alexander Wier. John Miller, James C. McMillan and William McQuiston were elected elders in 1856.

After the release and removal of Rev. Robert McCaslin the congregation was without a pastor for three years. The last communion was held by Rev. J. Y. Boice, then of Cincinnati, in May, 1869. The Ohio presbytery being reduced to three ministerial members, it was found difficult to obtain supplies in the Reformed Presbyterian church. A meeting was held in order to ascertain how many of the members were willing to unite with the Presbyterian church. The basis of union that was adopted by the delegates of the Reformed Presbyterian, the Associate Reformed and the Associate churches was read, all adhering to the same doctrinal standards, forms of worship and government. It was agreed by all present to accept this as the basis on which we were willing to unite with the United Presbyterian church without any sacrifice of principles of the Reformed Presbyterian church. It was then resolved to present a petition to the Xenia presbytery to be received as a congregation under the care of that presbytery. James C. McMillan, James

Bryson and Thomas B. Harper were appointed to present the petition, the same being accepted, and H. P. Jackson was appointed to preach on Thanksgiving Day, November 18, 1869, and arrange for the reception of the new congregation.

At this time a proposition came from members of the Second U. P. church principally, and some from the First U. P. church, of Xenia, to unite and form the Third U. P. church. The First and Second U. P. churches of Xenia contributed 37 members and the Reformed Presbyterian church 38 members, making a total for the new Third U. P. church of 75 members. December 9, 1869, was appointed to form the organization. Rev. H. P. Jackson called the session to order. James C. McMillan, James Bryson and William McQuiston, elders of the Reformed church, and George Monroe, Joseph Morrow and H. J. Bonner, of the U. P. church, constituted with prayer. The officers and members of the Reformed Presbyterian church were received, retaining the use of the church property under the direction of the three trustees, James Bryson, W. H. Stewart and Hugh M. Wier. Those of the U. P. church having their certificates were also received and the ecclesiastical union was formed and the organization of the Third United Presbyterian church of Xenia was completed.

The congregation was allowed to supply the pulpit for a time. Rev. Baldrige, W. T. Meloy, W. P. McNary and W. H. McMillan were heard, the latter holding communion on January 23, 1870. On this date the congregation held a meeting and a vote was taken without nomination for a pastor. Rev. W. H. McMillan received a large majority of all the votes cast. It was agreed to ask the presbytery for the moderation of a call. Rev. James G. Carson was appointed to moderate on March 28, 1870, who, after preaching a very appropriate sermon from Romans I, 16, asked the congregation if they were prepared to go forward with the call. They answered in the affirmative, and the name of Rev. W. H. McMillan was proposed to be inserted unanimously, and \$1,200 was proposed as his salary. All the members present signed the agreement, and the three trustees signed the bond for the salary. The call being approved by the presbytery, it was forwarded to his presbytery in Illinois and by him accepted.

In a short time Rev. McMillan was installed as the first pastor of the newly organized Third Presbyterian church of Xenia. He remained until January 23, 1873, when he was released to accept a call to the Second U. P. church at Allegheny. On November 3, 1873, Rev. Richard Turnbull was called and installed, remaining five years, being released on September 17, 1878, to accept a call to Detroit.

Rev. W. G. Moorehead was called on October 18, 1878, he being at the time a professor in the Xenia Theological Seminary. He accepted with the understanding that his services should not interfere with his duties in the seminary. He continued with the church until September 15, 1885, when he was released, the seminary requiring all of his time. Rev. J. W. Smith was called in April, 1886, and installed on the 4th of the month. He was released after four years' service to take charge of a church at Warren, Pennsylvania. The congregation next presented a petition to Rev. W. W. White, a professor in the local seminary, but he declined the offer. Rev. W. J. Buchanon, of Media, Illinois, was next invited to come and preach two Sabbaths and hold communion. He came and gave such satisfaction that a call was extended to him on March 23, 1891. A call was moderated for him, which he accepted, his salary to be \$1,200. He took charge on the second Sabbath in June, 1891, and was installed in December, 1891. At that time there were about 160 members on the roll.

The Third U. P. church had 75 members when organized and showed an increase of 140 per cent in 22 years. The writer at the present time is the only surviving member of the organization of 1848. [This concludes the original manuscript of J. C. McMillan, his final statement being to the effect that his work was "done by request," the manuscript being dated March 28, 1892.]

Rev. W. J. Buchanon was succeeded in September, 1897, by Rev. W. S. McClure, who was in charge of the church until it effected a union with

the Second United Presbyterian church, and then became the pastor of the united congregations, the new congregation being called the Second United Presbyterian church. The year 1902 saw the Second United Presbyterian without a pastor, Dr. J. G. Carson, who had been pastor since 1869, resigning on September 1, 1902.

It is at this point in the history of Presbyterianism in Xenia that the prejudices of a century had their last hearing. The old questions, such as music in the church, secret societies, and various others, were thoroughly discussed during 1902 and 1903. The facts in the merger are that both the Second and Third United Presbyterians needed new buildings, and yet neither congregation was strong enough to build a church. For this reason and also for the reason that many of the members of the two churches could not see the necessity of trying to maintain two separate congregations, the more progressive members of both churches began to agitate the merging of the two congregations. The discussion was carried on during the fall and winter of 1902 and 1903 and finally resulted in the two congregations coming to an agreement whereby the consolidation was effected. The record shows that on March 25, 1903, the session of the Third church unanimously adopted a resolution accepting the proposal of the Second church, and this date may be said to mark the official close of the Third church as a distinct congregation. At a subsequent meeting of the sessions of both churches, Rev. W. S. McClure was called as pastor of the united congregations, the new church carrying the name of the Second Presbyterian church. Thus closed the career of the Third United Presbyterian church of Xenia. Its church property was later sold, and the new church at once began plans for the erection of a new building. This new structure, as before stated, was completed in 1905 at a cost of twenty-seven thousand dollars.

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT JAMESTOWN.

The United Presbyterian church at Jamestown is a worthy daughter of the old Seceder church organized under the ministration of the Rev. Robert Armstrong on Massies creek in 1804, the latter having included in its membership all those of the early settlers of Greene county who held to the Associate faith. Presently the settlement along Caesars creek gained sufficient numerical strength to feel that it could support a church of its own, many finding the trip to the Massies Creek church too long for convenience, and in the spring of 1831, following a sermon preached by the Rev. John Kendall in John Duncan's barn, five miles east of Xenia, the people of that neighborhood began to talk about an organization. John Duncan was sent as a commissioner to presbytery with a petition for an organization.

This petition was granted and the Rev. Samuel Wilson was appointed to preach on the last Tuesday of July, 1831, and effect an organization. This meeting was held in George Junkin's barn and there and then was organized the Caesars Creek Associate church, David Brown, James Moore, John Duncan and James Irwin being elected elders of the same, these together with the following being the charter members, certified by the session of Massies Creek as dismissed by order of presbytery, July 26, 1831: John Ireland, Josiah Espey, Margaret Espey, John Turnbull, Margaret Turnbull, James Cresswell, Ann Cresswell, Martha Cresswell, William Sterrett, Elizabeth Sterrett, John Collins, Margaret Collins, George Junkin, Martha Junkin, Mary Anne Irwin, Margaret Irwin, Euphemia Brown, Andrew Harper, Christiana Duncan, Nancy L. Duncan, Mary Anne Duncan, Anthony Cannon, Martha Cannon, Thomas Cannon, Ann Cannon, John Bickett, Margaret Bickett, Hugh Campbell, Jannett Campbell, Mary Moore, Elizabeth Dean, Archibald Greave, Nancy Greave, Lancelot Junkin, Lancelot Junkin, Jr., Rosanna Ginn, Catherine Wilson, James Struthers, Elizabeth Struthers, Nancy West, Mary Currie, J. C. Webb.

On August 24, 1831, Mr. Wilson again preached and the above named elders were duly ordained. A comfortable house of worship was built without delay on the banks of Caesars creek, three miles west of Jamestown, and was entered before the close of that year, the congregation continuing to worship there until the present house of worship was erected on West Main street in the village of Jamestown in 1867, the congregation meanwhile, following the union of 1858, having adopted the polity of the United Presbyterian church. The first pastor was the Rev. Andrew Heron, D. D., who was installed on January 8, 1833, and who served as pastor until October 18, 1843. Doctor Heron was born in Scotland on November 13, 1788, and died at Cedarville, this county, September 1, 1873. The second pastor, the Rev. Cyrus Cummins, served from October 22, 1846, to March 25, 1861, and was succeeded by the Rev. W. A. Robb, D. D., who was installed as pastor on April 23, 1863, and who was reluctantly released by the congregation after a continuous service of fifty years, his resignation, due to the growing infirmities of age, being accepted on April 23, 1913, the fiftieth anniversary of his installation as pastor. Doctor Robb was born in Harrison county, this state, July 13, 1832, was graduated from Franklin College in 1855, took his theology in Xenia Theological Seminary and was licensed by Wheeling presbytery on April 10, 1861. Following the resignation of Doctor Robb the congregation was served by supply until presently a call was extended to the Rev. William A. Lorimer, who was installed as pastor on July 21, 1914, and is still serving.

The present membership of the United Presbyterian church at James-



town is one hundred and thirty. The Sabbath school has an enrollment of two hundred and ten. C. D. Lackey is superintendent of the Sabbath school. Mrs. J. C. Lackey is president of the Woman's Missionary Society, an organization numbering thirty-five, and Ruth Ferguson is president of the Young Peoples Society, which has an enrollment of thirty. For some time after 1862 the United Presbyterian congregation at Reesville, in the neighboring county of Clinton, was served as one pastoral charge with the Jamestown congregation. It is interesting to note that out of these congregations have gone thirteen ministers of the gospel, namely: Samuel F. Morrow, D. D., Anthony C. Junkin, D. D., Thomas W. Winter, John M. Heron, R. D. Williamson, Walter P. Currie, Ebenezer Currie, W. G. Spencer, F. M. Spencer, D. D., J. S. Turnbull, F. E. Dean, Mills J. Taylor and J. H. Dean.

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT CEDARVILLE.

The formal organization of what since the union of 1858 has been known as the United Presbyterian church of Cedarville was effected on November 6, 1844, by the following charter membership: Ruth R. Read, John Hume, Elizabeth Hume, James F. Stewart, Sara Jane Stewart, John Barber, Sarah Barber, David Jackson, Nancy Jackson, Robert Jackson, Minerva J. Jackson, Rachel Nichols, Thomas A. Read, Innis Townsley, Sarah Townsley, George Townsley, Margaret Townsley, William I. Gordon and Martha E. Gordon. On July 23, 1846, the Rev. James Buchanan was installed as pastor of the congregation and he continued in that relation until his death on April 11, 1847, being succeeded by his brother, the Rev. J. Harvey Buchanan, who was installed on May 22, 1848, and continued as pastor until November 20, 1854. He was succeeded by the Rev. James P. Wright, installed on April 9, 1856, who served until April 24, 1860, to be succeeded, March 31, 1863, by the Rev. James A. McCall, who died while thus serving on the 23rd of August following. Mr. McCall was succeeded by the Rev. W. H. Haney, who was installed as pastor on June 8, 1865, and who served until October 29, 1872. The next formally installed pastor was the Rev. H. F. Wallace, who served from October 26, 1875, until August 28, 1883, and was succeeded by the Rev. A. M. Campbell, April 14, 1885, to July 24, 1888. Mr. Campbell was succeeded by the Rev. J. C. Warnock, who was installed pastor on September 10, 1889, and who served the congregation until August 24, 1897, being succeeded, August 2, 1898, by the Rev. F. O. Ross, who continued as pastor until May 25, 1903, being succeeded by the Rev. O. H. Milligan, who was installed on January 12, 1904, and who served until January 19, 1909. Mr. Milligan's successor was the Rev. J. S. E. McMichael, the present pastor, who was installed on December 16, 1910.

The house of worship occupied by this congregation, a substantial brick

edifice at the northwest corner of Main and Chillicothe streets, was erected in 1887 and in 1912 was handsomely redecorated within, new opalescent windows being added at the same time, making the interior one of the prettiest in the county. The present membership of the church is approximately two hundred and seventy-five and all departments of the church's activities are reported in a flourishing condition. G. E. Jobe is superintendent of the Sabbath school; Mrs. C. W. Dean is president of the Woman's Missionary Society; Mrs. M. W. Collins, president of the Ladies Aid Society, and Hazel Lowry, president of the Young Peoples Society. There is besides a Junior Missionary Society.

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT BELLBROOK.

Previous to the union of the Associate (Seceder) and Associate Reformed churches in 1858 services had been held by those holding to the faith of the Seceders in the neighborhood of Bellbrook, these early settlers being ministered by the Rev. Robert Armstrong, who had his station up on Massies creek. In 1811 the Seceders of the Bellbrook vicinity erected a church building at the point now marked by the old Seceder graveyard north of the village and there worshipped until a gradual preponderance of the population rendered advisable the abandonment of that site and the erection of a church on Sugar creek, northwest of the village, where they continued to worship until the union of 1858. In the following year the United Presbyterians erected a church in Bellbrook, under the ministry of the Rev. R. E. Stewart, and that church has ever since been maintained. Mr. Stewart died not long after the erection of the new building and was succeeded by the Rev. J. B. McMichael, who continued as pastor until elevated to the presidency of Monmouth College in 1878. During the period of the ministry of Doctor McMichael he organized another congregation of the United Presbyterian church on the Dayton pike. Doctor McMichael was succeeded as pastor of the United Presbyterian church at Bellbrook by the Rev. W. McClure.

#### REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CEDARVILLE.

Though there were a sufficient number of Covenanters among the early settlers of what is now the Cedarville neighborhood to hold prayer meetings there as early as the year 1804, there was no formal preaching service in their behalf until in 1809, in the fall of which year the Rev. Thomas Donnelly, a minister of the Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter) communion, and John Kell, then a licentiate, passed through the settlement and preached. This is said to have been the first authorized exposition of the gospel by a minister of the Covenanter church in the state of Ohio, and it is from that year, 1809,

that the Reformed Presbyterian church of Cedarville dates its organization. During the more than a century of service in that community the Covenanters have maintained the faith of their fathers and have been a continuing and helpful force for good thereabout, and when the church celebrated its centennial anniversary in 1909 the occasion was made one of much rejoicing.

The early prayer meetings above referred to were participated in by the families of David Mitchell, who had settled on Clarks run in 1804, James Miller, James Reid, grandfather of Whitelaw Reid, and William Moreland. Both Mitchell and Miller were elders of the church, having been ordained to that office before coming to this county. The first preaching service was held in a log barn on the Dallas farm. Not long afterward the Rev. John Black, of Pittsburgh, visited the little society, constituted a session and received James Reid and his wife as the first accessions to the church, the Reids having fallen out with the Associated Reformed church, with which they previously had been affiliated in Kentucky, by reason of their pastor at Lexington, the Rev. Adam Rankin, having become a slaveholder. On the following Sabbath Mr. Black preached in the log barn belonging to David Laughead, son-in-law of Mr. Mitchell, and administered the sacrament of baptism to William and Joseph Reid, young sons of James Reid and wife, born after their parents had withdrawn from the Associate Reformed communion. In 1810 the families of Gavin Johnson and Alexander Foster settled in the neighborhood, adding their numerical strength to the little band of Covenanters thereabout, and not long afterward other families holding to this faith began to come in, so that by the year 1812, when the little flock decided to erect a church building instead of continuing its services in the houses of its several members, there was a considerable band thus to assemble. In the meantime the Rev. John Kell had been making trips here from time to time and thus served the congregation with preaching about one-fourth of the time from 1810 to 1816, in which latter year the Rev. Jonathan Gill was installed as pastor. Mr. Gill continued this relation until 1823, when, by reason of the meager financial support the little congregation contributed to his maintenance, he was compelled to resign. He remarked that there were a few families in the congregation to whom he would gladly preach as long as he lived if they could only give him enough bread and meat to support his family, but this he knew they could not do, and so he would resign. At no time during this period had the congregation numbered more than forty communicants. After the departure of Mr. Gill the church was supplied about one-fourth of the time until the spring of 1829 by the Rev. Gavin McMillan, who in the meantime stirred the congregation to abandon the little log church building which they had erected in 1812 on the Miller farm, seven miles east

of Xenia, and to put up a more comfortable house of worship. This second church building was built of stone and was forty feet long by thirty wide, erected on a plot of ground two miles east of the old log church, on the banks of Massies creek, six miles from Xenia and two miles from Cedarville, and was opened for service in 1824.

In the fall of 1828 Rev. Hugh McMillan assisted his brother Gavin to dispense the Lord's Supper in the congregation and the members were so pleased with his service that they extended to him a unanimous call to become the settled pastor of the church. He then was preaching in South Carolina, but had become discontented over slavery conditions in that state, as had most of the members of his congregation there. He therefore inclined a willing ear to the call to come over into Ohio and in April, 1829, returned from the South and was soon afterward installed as pastor. When the Rev. Hugh McMillan entered upon his pastorate there on Massies creek he had under his charge sixty-six communicants. A goodly number of his people in South Carolina followed him, so that in a few years they formed the major part of the congregation. In 1833, at the time of the division in the church, there were one hundred and sixty-five members, thirty-eight of whom went out with the Synod branch. The division caused some trouble about the occupancy of the church building, but an amicable adjustment was made by allowing those who had left the congregation to use the church every fourth Sabbath. During the time the church was thus occupied Mr. McMillan preached in Xenia one-fourth of his time. In 1839 the congregation purchased a plot of ground adjoining the old site and erected thereon a new church, of brick, forty-five by fifty-five feet, and gave the other congregation full use of the old stone church. In 1848 the members living in Xenia and vicinity petitioned presbytery for a distinct organization and the petition was granted, the Xenia congregation subtracting fifty members from the mother church. They immediately made a call upon Doctor McMillan, who was then living in Xenia, to become their pastor, but he declined to give up his connection with his old congregation and presently moved to Cedarville, where he continued his labors and where he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring there on October 9, 1860. Doctor McMillan was a man of great vigor and ability. A native of South Carolina, born in 1794, he was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and was presently elected professor of languages in Columbia University. Determining to consecrate himself to the ministry, he entered the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary at Philadelphia and in 1820 was licensed to preach. After doing missionary work from Ohio to South Carolina, he was ordained and installed pastor of Rocky Creek church, in the Chester district of his home state, in 1821. His antipathy to slavery soon

made his position untenable and, as above noted, he came to Greene county with nearly all his congregation. It has been observed that as a religious leader Doctor McMillan exerted an influence which has impressed itself ineradicably upon the character of the people in the neighborhood in which he so long labored. The Doctor's fame as an educator also was widespread. For many years he conducted an academy where young men were prepared for college. He also held a professorship in the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary at Philadelphia and was a trustee of Miami University. He died with his armor on and was buried in Massies Creek cemetery, on the very spot where his pulpit had stood.

After the death of Doctor McMillan the congregation at Cedarville was served by supplies until in 1863, in which year began the forty-year pastoral incumbency of the Rev. James F. Morton, D. D. During Doctor Morton's pastorate the congregation enjoyed the steady growth that characterizes a mature organization. Two of the most notable events were the founding of Cedarville College and the erection of the present handsome church edifice. Cedarville College was chartered in 1887 and opened its doors in 1894 under the auspices of the Reformed Presbyterian general synod. Started primarily to furnish theological students, it soon proved a valuable help in the local religious work of the congregation and has steadily maintained that position. Doctor Morton continued as pastor of the congregation until his death on May 31, 1903, a period of forty years, during which time he proved a potent influence for good throughout the community in which his patient labor of love was carried on. He was born in Tennessee, January 18, 1828, and was thirteen years of age when his parents moved from Tennessee to Illinois. He spent his early manhood in teaching and in 1859 entered Monmouth College, from which he was graduated in 1861. The next year he was graduated from the seminary and not long afterward entered upon his labors at Cedarville. After the death of Doctor Morton the pulpit was vacant for a year, during which time Prof. W. R. McChesney, of the college, performed the duties of pastor. In 1904 a call was extended to the Rev. Albert Barnes Henry, a Kansan and a graduate of Monmouth College, class of 1896, who was graduated from the Philadelphia Seminary in 1900, ordained by the Philadelphia presbytery and placed in charge of the Second Reformed Presbyterian church in Philadelphia, where he remained until he accepted the call to Cedarville. Mr. Henry's labors at Cedarville continued until 1906, in which year he accepted a call from the Kensington Presbyterian church of Philadelphia and returned to that city. Professor McChesney was again placed in pastoral charge of the church at Cedarville and continued thus serving the congregation for two years, at the end of which time, in September, 1908,

the Rev. Mills J. Taylor was installed as pastor. Mr. Taylor also was a Monmouth alumnus and was graduated from the Xenia Theological Seminary in the year in which he was ordained and installed as pastor of the church at Cedarville. His successor, the Rev. J. L. Chestnut, present pastor of the church, was installed in January, 1915.

The present church building of the Reformed Presbyterian congregation at Cedarville is the fifth house of worship occupied by that body. In 1853 the congregation determined to pull down the old brick church on Massies creek and to rebuild it in Cedarville, that village being a more central point after the members composing the Xenia congregation had withdrawn. By this time the old stone church was not fit for use and those then using it gave up their interest to the others, and its material also was used in the construction of the new edifice at Cedarville, the latter thus having in it material from the old church of 1824 and from that of 1839. This fourth church is now used as a gymnasium by Cedarville College and is known as the Alford Memorial, having been purchased in 1902 by William Alford and donated to the college as a memorial in honor of his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. John Alford. It is of brick, forty-five by sixty-seven feet, with a twelve-foot vestibule, and when opened for use in 1853 was furnished with the same pulpit and pews that were in the old brick church erected in 1839. The present church building was begun in 1901 and was dedicated in the following year, having been completed at a cost of twenty-two thousand dollars. It contains a memorial tablet to Dr. Hugh McMillan, a memorial window to Doctor Morton and a memorial window to Robert Charlton Reid, presented by his son, the late Whitelaw Reid. The congregation has about two hundred and fifty members and the active auxiliary societies of the church are reported to be doing good work. The Sabbath school, once looked upon with suspicion, boasts of near two hundred members. The old feeling of distrust at the introduction of innovations and of anger at the laying aside of ancient relics are not held in the present generation, though "the banner of the covenant" is held none the less proudly aloft. Among the ministers sent out from this congregation may be mentioned G. Riley McMillan, John McMillan, Robert McMillan, Homer McMillan, Jason McMillan, William Bratton, Harvey Reid, Daniel C. Cooper, James H. Cooper, Samuel R. Stormont, David Murdock, John Kendall, Robert Galbreath, Riley Little, Milton Hanna, Wallace Iliff, Clarence Young, Alvin Orr and Frank Orr.

When the church celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of its organization in 1909 a handsome "Centennial Souvenir" was issued carrying a general history of the church and much additional matter of interest to Covenanters, among the contributions to the same being the following poem written by one of the sons of the church:

## THE COVENANTERS.

By Wilbur D. Nesbit

You cannot understand us, you folk of changing creeds,  
 Who weave a changing fabric to fit tomorrow's needs;  
 You cannot understand us; the path is rough and high  
 And you would turn out from it to smoother ways near by.

But through the clash and clamor of your disputing words  
 We hear the olden saying of them that tended herds;  
 And in the ancient dogma you hold of small account  
 We hear the primal message that thundered from the mount.

A covenant we cherish—a covenant of old;  
 A covenant first fashioned where Jordan's waters rolled;  
 It throbbed from David's harpstrings by the eternal plan,  
 Unchanging and unceasing—the covenant with man.

They cannot understand us, the folk of changing creeds,  
 Who weave a mingled fabric to fit tomorrow's needs—  
 But we have seen tomorrows grow from the yesterdays  
 While man-made creeds have faded into the distant haze.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT XENIA.

The Presbyterian church of Xenia was organized on Saturday, November 6, 1841, following a petition of twenty-seven members of this faith which had been drawn up and signed on the 27th of the preceeding September. The full text of the petition to the Miami presbytery, together with the signers thereunto, is as follows:

We whose names are hereby given, express in this form, our desire to have a Presbyterian church organized to be under the care of the Presbytery of Miami and we promise our support and adherence to the same as a worshipping congregation: Ezra Bennett, James Brown and wife, James Bratten, Adam Rupell, Adam Rupell, Jr., Thomas Townsley, Elvira McCouin, Nancy McConnell, Elizabeth Kind, Rebecca Straine, Jane King, Amanda McConnell, Nancy Nesbit, Ann B. Allison, Elizabeth Williams, Cassandra Williams, David Medsker, Eleanor Medsker, Albert Wiley, John McClung, M. A. Crawford, E. S. Nichols, Francis Harris and family, William Saunders, James Stevenson, Aaron Harlan.

This petition was presented in due form to the presbytery, and it was the desire of the presbytery that the petitioners have their church established as soon as they could furnish a sufficient number of members with certificates of membership in some previously existing congregation. James C. Barnes and John C. Galloway were sent to Xenia by presbytery to examine into the proposed church on the same day, September 27, 1841, and preached that night and the next day. On Monday, September 29, the names of those with proper certificates were called for, and eighteen names were presented, but only few of this number had their certificates. Consequently, the members of the proposed congregation were told to get their certificates and that when they were thus prepared, the church would be organized.

The formal organization took place on November 6, 1841, at which time the following persons presented the proper certificates and became the charter members of the church: Ezra Bennett, Mary Ann Bennett, E. S. Nichols, Elvira McCouin, Rebecca Straine, Margaret Rogers, Nancy McConnell, Ann Hook, Rebecca Hook, Martha Hook, Janetta Hook, James Bratton, Jane C. King, Ann B. Allison, Matthew C. Allison, the infant son of Anna B. Allison, was the first child baptized into the church. This gives a charter membership of fourteen, three men and eleven women. It is interesting to note that the church today has only one descendant of these charter members, Mrs. Robert Adair, whose father, E. S. Nichols, was one of the charter members.

The church has had two buildings in the seventy-seven years of its history, both on the present site, southeast corner of Market and King streets. This lot was purchased in 1847 of James Collier for six hundred dollars, and the same year the first building, a two-story brick structure, was in process of erection. The beginning of the present building dates from the spring of 1868. In May the building committee reported subscriptions in the amount of \$16,900, but it was decided not to begin building until \$25,000 was pledged. The razing of the old church began on July 13, 1868, and until the new building was completed the congregation held services in the Y. M. C. A. rooms and in the opera house. It appears that the original plan was for a two-story structure, but this was subsequently abandoned and the church was completed in its present form.

The complete list of pastors from the beginning is as follows: J. Hudson, October 4, 1845-March 20, 1847; from 1841 to 1845 the congregation had been using supplies; E. E. Swift, September 16, 1848-February 2, 1850; H. W. Taylor, August 15, 1851-March 24, 1855; L. B. Wilson, November 3, 1855-August 8, 1858; W. L. Findley, September 18, 1859-January 10, 1869; Joseph H. Montgomery, June 23, 1869-June 7, 1871; W. W. Ralston, November 1, 1872-August 19, 1875; L. M. Hopkins, April 30, 1876-September 19, 1880; F. M. Wood (supply), January 18, 1881-March 18, 1883; Charles Axtell, October 3, 1883-August 23, 1886; J. C. Ely, November 27, 1886-July 4, 1897; J. E. McGee, January 15, 1898-April 9, 1899; J. S. Edensburn, September 20, 1899-January 25, 1904; Ames Montgomery, September 2, 1904-March 14, 1909; William H. Mason, November 1, 1909-July 1, 1912; C. C. Martin, eight months; George S. Macaulay, December, 1913. In the spring of 1918 Reverend Macaulay went to France to engage in Y. M. C. A. work, and at present the congregation is without the services of a regular pastor. George E. Gowdy, who was compelled to give up the ministry three years ago on account of ill health, is now supplying the pulpit.

The first elder elected was Ezra Bennett, since which time the following



have served as elders: Samuel Adams, D. L. Hills, William K. Russell, T. P. Townsley, John Carey, William Rupell, A. M. Houston, J. H. Cooper, O. M. Whittington, George S. Ormsby, R. L. Merriam, Daniel McMillen, Robert Gowdy, Daniel Fleming, Dr. Leigh McClung, William Watt, Dr. C. M. Galloway, R. K. Stevenson, C. N. Lupton. James A. Brown, Dr. Ben R. McClellan, E. C. Fleming, William Cooper, J. H. Irwin, A. Hutchinson, James Kyle, J. M. Stewart, Dr. A. C. Messenger, R. C. West, U. E. Clark, D. B. Watt, Hunter Bull, Dr. W. A. Galloway, Dr. D. D. Jones, O. C. Baker, Bert J. Winters, J. B. Fleming, Dr. Reed Madden, R. D. Adair, J. R. Sterling and George A. Birch, Jr. The present members of the session are Dr. Reed Madden, D. B. Watt, D. D. Jones, Dr. A. C. Messenger, B. J. Winters, O. M. Whittington, George A. Birch, Jr., Dr. W. A. Galloway and R. D. Adair.

The present diaconate of the church is composed of J. W. Prugh (president), C. S. Johnson (secretary), H. E. Kiernan, Charles L. Jobe, Charles F. Howard, Frank H. Routzong, R. D. Williamson, Harry D. Smith and Dr. Paul D. Espey. The treasurers of the church since the beginning have served in the following order: E. S. Nichols, T. P. Townsley, Tunis Dubois, A. G. Wilson, J. M. Cooper, C. W. Chandler, O. M. Whittington, M. D. Lupton, C. L. Jobe and Miss O. E. Kyle.

The church has always maintained a Sabbath school, and today enrolls one hundred and eighty members in its classes. John W. Prugh is superintendent. There is a Christian Endeavor Society of twenty-five members and two missionary societies, Home and Foreign, with thirty-five members, and the Missionary Guild, with forty members. The congregation numbered three hundred and eighteen members according to its published roster for the year 1917-1918.

#### REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT XENIA.

The Reformed Presbyterian church at Xenia was an outgrowth of the organization effected by the Covenanters on Massies creek in 1809. It became a separate organization in 1848 and in the next year erected a church edifice at the corner of Columbus and Market streets, the first pastor being the Rev. J. A. Crawford. The members of the first session were J. C. McMillan, William McQuiston and John Miller. On December 9, 1869, this church formed a union with forty members of the Second United Presbyterian church of Xenia and its thirty-five members became merged with the new congregation known as the Third United Presbyterian church of Xenia, which had a continuous history from 1869 until 1902 when it was merged with the Second United Presbyterian church.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT CLIFTON.

An older chronicle narrates that "in the early days of the nineteenth century the beautiful and romantic tract now occupied by the Yellow Springs House could boast of but one pretentious little cabin, owned and occupied by a widow, named Davis, who was a staunch Presbyterian and who frequently entertained at her house the traveling ministers who chanced to pass. On these occasions the few settlers of the neighborhood flocked to the house to participate in the services conducted by these traveling preachers—the first meetings ever held in the township."

In 1812 settlers holding to the Presbyterian faith had so increased in number in that neighborhood that, under the direction of the Rev. Peter Monfort, a rude log meeting-house was erected at the point that later became known as Clifton and formal services began to be held. Mr. Montfort, who was an uncle of the Montfort who later became widely known throughout Presbyteriana as the editor of the *Herald and Presbyterian*, was a man of much force and under his admirable ministrations the little congregation soon grew to such proportions that the little log meeting-house became inadequate. It was supplanted by a brick church which served the needs of the congregation until in the proper course of time it became necessary again to enlarge the house of worship and the old brick church gave way to another of more ample proportions and of more modern style of architecture, a handsome brick edifice which was a credit to the community. For twenty years, or until his death, the Rev. Andrew Polk was pastor of the Presbyterian church at Clifton. The present pastor is Reverend McKibbon.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT BELLBROOK.

The Presbyterians in the neighborhood of Bellbrook effected an organization as early as the year 1827, the first members of the session of this congregation having been Josiah Lamme, John Cooper and William Russell. The Rev. William Gray was the first minister and he was followed by the Rev. Adrian Aten, the latter's immediate successors being the Rev. John S. Weaver and the Rev. T. B. Atkins, the latter of whom served during the '70s and '80s. In 1829, a year or two after effecting an organization, the congregation erected a meeting-house on the hill just west of Bellbrook and there continued to hold services until in 1858 when they purchased a church building which had been erected in Bellbrook by the Universalists, who had found themselves unable to maintain their organization.

In addition to the above Presbyterian churches of the county, there are a few others concerning which it has been impossible to secure data. There have been three churches of this denomination at Yellow Springs: The first was organized on February 3, 1855, by Rev. Samuel D. Smith, who

became the first pastor, the most prominent member of the original fourteen charter members being William Mills, the founder of the town of Yellow Springs. The second church of this faith in the town of Yellow Springs was incorporated on January 19, 1859, under the name of the First Presbyterian Church of Yellow Springs. This congregation erected a handsome building of limestone in 1859. The third branch of Presbyterianism appeared in Yellow Springs in 1861, being a seceding group of twelve from the First church, and calling themselves the Central Presbyterian church. This third congregation held services in the building of the Reformed people, but after the close of the Civil War, became so weak that it was finally disbanded, most of its members returning to the First church.

During the early '50s of the past century there was organized at Yellow Springs a church of the Associate Reformed communion. The new congregation erected a church building, under the ministry of the Rev. Alexander Nesbitt, but never succeeded in paying for the same and the house was sold at sheriff's sale and the congregation presently was disbanded, Mr. Nesbitt having been the only pastor. The church building later was taken over and occupied by the Negro Baptists of that community.

The first Presbyterian church at Osborn was organized in 1865 by Reverend Johnson, G. L. Massey being the most prominent of the seven charter members. At first the little congregation held its services in the Lutheran church of the town, but in 1867 they erected a six-thousand-dollar building, having at that time a membership of eighty-seven.

#### FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF XENIA.

In a handsome pamphlet issued by the First Methodist Episcopal church of Xenia on the occasion of the celebration of the centennial of that body's organization and entitled "A Century of Service," under the editorial supervision of Mrs. Carrie Dodds Geyer and Mrs. A. C. Turrell, it is stated that the Union Methodist Episcopal church, two miles south of Xenia, is the mother church of Greene county Methodism. In their oldest quarterly conference record, a record of Mad River circuit dating back to May 23, 1807, the "Society of Methodists in Xenia" is mentioned for the first time, June 18, 1808. The preaching places on Mad River circuit in 1808 were Springfield, Sweet's, Cartmill's, Spain's, Urbana, Reynolds', Ross's, Cain's, Hendershott's, Coleman's, Lamb's, Reed's, Harner's, Th. Smith's, Harner's, Huron's, Lebanon, Curl's, Widow Smith's, Mt. Pleasant, Bonner's (Union), Xenia, Cutler's, Boggoss's and Adams's. The total quarterage of these twenty-five places amounted to forty dollars, of which amount "Xenia" paid two dollars.

The pioneer Methodist of Greene county was Frederick Bonner, who came here with his family from Virginia in June, 1803. Eighteen years

before John Wesley died and eleven years before Francis Asbury was appointed the first Methodist bishop, Frederick Bonner was one of the most prominent Methodists in Virginia, where his house was a regular preaching place for twenty-five years, and his is the first name on the list of those who have served as trustees of the First Methodist Episcopal church in Xenia. In 1803 he sold his five hundred acres of land in Virginia for two thousand dollars and, coming to Ohio, invested the money in a two-thousand-acre tract of land about two miles south of the present city of Xenia. Many of his friends and neighbors in Virginia came out and settled in this neighborhood, forming a community that has been distinctly Methodist in religion for more than one hundred years. Frederick Bonner could not have been here many weeks before a Methodist "class" was formed, and during the years preceding the building of any Methodist church in this county the preaching place was known as Bonner's. His son, Chappell Bonner, is the third man mentioned as trustee for what is now the First church. One of his daughters married Samuel Pelham, another trustee; and two other daughters married Methodist preachers, W. P. Taylor and John Sale, the latter of whom was for years presiding elder for this district, his service in that connection covering the periods 1807-10 and 1814-17. Frederick Bonner gave each of his children a farm and Mrs. Sale lived on her farm while her husband traveled on horseback, preaching all over the state of Ohio. Many notable instances of his power in prayer are told, and it was under his preaching at camp-meeting in 1810 that Gen. Simon Kenton was converted.

Richard Conwell, another of the members of the first board of trustees, came here from Virginia in 1803. He was a tanner. Henry Hypes, a trustee of the church in 1814, also came from Virginia. Two of his sons became ministers of the Methodist church, as did two grandsons in their generation. Alfred M. Lorrain, the first superintendent of the Sunday school and pastor in 1834-35, was a soldier of the War of 1812. For some time he followed the sea and after his arrival in Xenia in 1821 he taught school and also studied medicine, but in 1824 he began preaching and for thirty-nine years served as a minister of the gospel. The latter part of his life was spent in literary work, mostly for church papers and *The Ladies' Repository* and in 1862, only one year before his death, he published his autobiography, an interesting book entitled, "The Helm, the Sword and the Cross."

The recognized founder of Methodism in Ohio is Francis McCormick, who formed a class in the vicinity of Milford, in Clermont county, in 1797. He went to conference and begged Bishop Asbury to send a preacher across the Ohio river. In response to this entreaty the bishop, in 1798, asked the

Rev. John Kobler, the presiding elder of the Kentucky district, to cross the river and form a circuit in Ohio. Following the Little Miami and Mad rivers as far north as Dayton, Kobler returned down the Big Miami to Cincinnati, and the circuit thus formed became known as the Miami circuit, the first circuit formed in Ohio. In the conference minutes of 1800 it is mentioned as having ninety-eight white members and one colored. In 1805 this circuit is referred to as the Miami and Mad River circuit and in 1807, simply as the Mad River circuit; so that when the Xenia church was organized in 1808 it belonged to the Mad River circuit, Ohio district of the Western conference. The circuit at that time had five hundred and thirty-two members, twenty-five preaching places, and was served by three traveling preachers called "circuit riders." Francis Asbury and William McKendree were the bishops and the Rev. John Sale, mentioned above, was the presiding elder. In 1809 Miami "district" was formed and in 1811 Union circuit is first mentioned. In 1827 this circuit had above twelve hundred members. Xenia continued to be a part of Union circuit until 1836, when the size and character of the church demanded a settled preacher and conference took the church from Union circuit and made it a "station," with Rev. Azra Brown, a typical old-time Methodist, its first settled pastor. In the meantime the Western conference had grown to ten districts and had become so large that in 1812 an Ohio conference was formed, with five districts, including Miami district. In 1852 the Cincinnati conference was formed out of the Ohio conference and Xenia was a part of the Springfield district until 1893, when it was placed in the Hillsboro district.

In 1864 the first Methodist church in Xenia, then commonly called the Second Street church, had become so large that it was thought expedient to organize another Methodist church in town and accordingly a board of trustees was appointed out of the membership and Trinity church was erected. The most cordial relations and the heartiest co-operation have existed from the first between the mother church and Trinity, the two congregations always holding their "love feast" together and often uniting for special services. It is impossible within the limits of a review of this character to even mention the names of the many men and women who have given lives of service as members of this church. But without doubt Mrs. Tobias Drees held her membership in the church longer than anyone else. She was baptized by the Rev. John Sale, the first presiding elder, and gave this church seventy-one years of unbroken service. Her father, Henry Hypes, led the singing in the church for the first thirty or forty years. Three deaconesses have gone out from the church, Carra Close, Emma Huston and Lucy Medsker, and another of the young ladies of the church, Euretta Meredith, was here prepared for foreign missionary work. The homes of

Frederick Bonner, Nathan Nesbitt, Michael Nunnemaker, Hiram C. Brown and Tobias Drees were always open for the entertainment of Methodist ministers and were sometimes called the "Methodist Hotels." Besides the names mentioned elsewhere, no history of the church would be adequate without mention of the names of Perkins, Davis, Wright, Beall, Pelham, Beatty, Gatch, Shearer, Newton, Keagy, Trader, Connable, Lauman, McGervey, Buckles, Whitmer and Shannon. The church has been favored in having been served by many of the most eminent ministers of the Ohio and Cincinnati conferences.

The history of the church begins in 1808 with a visit from Bishop Asbury, who had preached at the home of Frederick Bonner, September 19, 1807. John Sale, John Collins, George W. Walker, Alfred Lorain, Asbury Lowrey, Granville Moody and J. F. Marlay were repeatedly sent as delegates to the general conference, James B. Finley being a member of that body eight times, and many others were thus honored by their brethren at least once. John Collins has been referred to as "remarkable preacher and one of the most useful men in the conference." Benjamin Larkin is remembered as a man "especially beloved by all the children." Of John Strange it has been written that "he was one of the brightest lights of the American pulpit in the Mississippi valley in the early days. There were times when his audiences were held spellbound by his eloquence and raised *en masse* from their seats." An earlier historian has written of W. P. Taylor that he "was profoundly doctrinal and argumentative and used so many big words that some of his congregation actually thought at one time that he was preaching in Latin." Russell Bigelow traveled all over Ohio on horseback, was missionary to the Wyandotte Indians for a time and several prominent churches in the state bear his name. Of Charles Waddle it is said that in his time he was, "without exception, the most popular preacher in the conference." A reminiscent note regarding the service of Arthur Elliott says that one summer he was greatly annoyed by the rabble almost breaking up his camp-meeting and was thus moved to pray: "O Lord, rain hell fire until it is knee deep." William H. Raper, twice pastor and twice presiding elder, "won the respect and admiration of all classes of people," and of William B. Christie it is noted that he "was a finely educated man." Daniel Davidson's favorite theme was the final resurrection and when preaching on this subject he was wont fervently to declare that "the heavens will be rolled up like parchment and the sea bile like a pot."

In 1849, while Charles Elliott was pastor, the fearful scourge of cholera swept over the town and the pastor was heroic in his ministrations to the sick and dying. He was one of the notable men of the conference. After serving as both pastor and presiding elder, he went as missionary to the

Indians. Afterwards he became editor of the *Western Christian Advocate*, professor and then president of the college at Delaware. Elliott Hall at the Ohio Wesleyan University is named in his honor. Asbury Lowrey was the first president of the Xenia Female College after its adoption by the Cincinnati conference. He was the first to suggest a university for colored students at Wilberforce. Granville Moody, the "fighting parson," was one of the most prominent men in Ohio during the Civil War. It was in this church that Chaplain C. C. McCabe, afterward bishop, delivered for the first time his lecture on Libby Prison, December 4, 1863, only a short time after his release from the prison. Four of the ministers of this church, Finley, Bigelow, Grover and Starr, served as chaplain of the Ohio state penitentiary. Of William L. Hypes it was written that he "was one of the most saintly men in his conference. His presence in his home church was always a benediction to our people." Dr. J. F. Marlay, who served twice as pastor and once as presiding elder, is referred to as having been "universally beloved in the church and community." Lucien Clark, during his pastorate, planned and carried out a system of Bible study that became of general interest in the community. Of Thomas H. Pearie it is written that he "was a remarkable man." He preached the gospel for sixty-two years, was United States consul to Jamaica, and rendered notable service in establishing Methodism in Oregon. Regarding the wives of the ministers who have served this church it is very properly written that they "have been without exception worthy helpers in the work of the church; noble women, living lives of self-denial and untiring devotion, and their names and loving service are indelibly written in the hearts of our people." Many of the ministers who have served this church have been ardent advocates of temperance, notably Alfred Lorrain and James B. Finley in the early days; Dr. J. F. Marlay and his wife during the historic "woman's crusade" in Xenia, and later, Albert C. Turrell. During Mr. Turrell's pastorate of six years at Xenia he officiated at more than two hundred weddings, five hundred baptisms and two hundred and twenty-five funerals. The church has had a number of really great "revivals" of religion. In 1832-33, under the direction of James Laws and Dr. Samuel Latta, there was conducted a revival that continued from before the holidays until late in the spring, people coming twenty and thirty miles to attend the meetings. Between three hundred and four hundred persons were united with the church during that effort. Other notable revivals were conducted in 1840-41, Joseph J. Hill, pastor; 1846-47, William Herr, pastor; 1862, William I. Fee, pastor; 1877, Lucien Clark; 1894-95, John J. McCabe, and 1900, Albert C. Turrell.

From the beginning the church has been greatly interested in missionary work. In 1821 James B. Finley, then presiding elder, was sent by the

conference as the first missionary to the Wyandotte Indians. On his way to their reservation he passed through Xenia and on Sunday the church took up a collection for his work. This was eleven years before the Methodist church sent its first foreign missionary to Africa and Alfred Lorrain says of this collection: "The Xenia church doubtless has the honor of taking up the first missionary subscription that was ever started in the Methodist church in America." Russell Bigelow, pastor during the early '20s, was the second man sent to the Wyandottes, and his daughter Lucy married a chief of the tribe. Miss Wright and Miss Angelica Lorrain also went from this church as missionaries to the Wyandottes. Alfred Lorrain and Charles Elliott were especially filled with missionary enthusiasm, the latter being particularly anxious that the "gospel be preached in Rome right under the Pope's nose." Dr. Charles W. Drees, one of the sons of the first church, has performed a notable work as head of the Methodist mission work among Spanish-speaking peoples. A large number of young men have gone out from this church to preach the gospel, the roster including such names as those of Alfred M. Lorrain, Uriah Heath, John Alexander, John Braden, Anthony Musgrove, J. C. Reid, James L. Grover, William Alexander, J. S. Prescott, Eli R. Beall, E. C. Merrick, M. L. Reid, J. H. Payne, J. F. Loyd, William L. Hypes, Fletcher Hypes, Dennison Cheney, Charles F. Gowdy and Charles W. Drees. The annual conference has been entertained by this church six times, in 1836, 1853, 1863, 1877, 1889 and 1898.

During the eleven decades of its history, eighty-five pastors have served this church. From 1808 to 1836 the church was one of the appointments of the Union circuit, a circuit so large that it had to have two and often three pastors in charge of it. For many years the rule was to change the pastors every year, fifty-one different pastors thus serving during the first twenty-eight years. Following is a list of the eighty-five pastors: 1807-08, Thomas Milligan, James Davisson, William Mitchell; 1808-09, Hezekiah Shaw, William Young, Samuel Hinkle; 1809-10, Samuel Hinkle, Hector Sanford, Thomas Nelson; 1810-11, John Collins; 1811-12, John Collins, Moses Crume; 1812-13, Benjamin Lakin, Solomon Langdon, Adjit McGuire; 1813-14, Marcus Lindsey, Joseph Tatman; 1814-15, Moses Crume, Jacob Miller, Bennett Maxey; 1815-16, Abbott Goddard, David Sharp; 1816-17, John Sale, John Brooks, William Williams; 1817-18, William Dixon, John Waterman; 1818-19, Truman Bishop, Stephen Harber; 1819-20, John Strange, W. M. P. Quinn; 1820-21, John Strange, W. P. Taylor; 1821-22, John Strange, John C. Brooks; 1822-23, Arthur W. Elliott, John C. Brooks; 1823-24, Arthur W. Elliott, Burrous Westlake; 1824-25, Russell Bigelow, Burrous Westlake, Thomas Beacham; 1825-26, Charles Waddle, John Sale, William B. Christie; 1826-27, William H. Raper, George W. Maley, George



W. Walker, Thomas Hitt; 1827-28, William H. Raper, George W. Maley, J. W. Clark; 1828-29, Augustus Eddy, Joshua Boucher; 1829-30, Augustus Eddy, W. P. Taylor; 1830-31, Francis Wilson, Eben Owens; 1831-32, Francis Wilson, Daniel D. Davidson; 1832-33, James Laws, Dr. Samuel A. Latta; 1833-34, William Sutton, David Warnock; 1834-35, Alfred M. Lorrain, Stephen H. Holland, Alex. H. Morrow; 1835-36, Arza Brown; 1836-1837, Levi White; 1837-38, Solomon Howard; 1838-39, W. M. Young; 1839-41, J. J. Hill; 1841-43, J. W. White; 1843-45, William H. Fyffe; 1845-46, J. G. Dimmitt; 1846-47, William Herr; 1847-48, William H. Raper; 1848-50, Charles Elliott; 1850-51, Augustus Eddy; 1851-53, Asbury Lowrey; 1853-55, Cyrus Brooks; 1855-57, Granville Moody; 1857-58, Charles Adams; 1858-60, Moses Smith; 1860-62, William H. Sutherland; 1862-64, William I. Fee; 1864-66, James L. Grover; 1866-68, Thomas Collett; 1868-71, William L. Hypes; 1871-74, J. F. Marlay; 1874-77, M. A. Richards; 1877-80, Lucien Clark; 1880-82, E. T. Wells; 1882-85, William Runyan; 1885-89, J. F. Marlya; 1889-93, Thomas H. Pearne; 1893-98, John J. McCabe; 1898-1904, Albert C. Turrell; 1904-10, Edgar H. Cherington; 1910-15, Charles W. Sullivan; 1915, Asa James Kestle.

In 1808 when the first Methodist church in Xenia was organized the village had about thirty log houses and one frame house. The brick court house was erected the next year and in that "temple of justice" the Methodists of the village often held their services until 1816, when the first meeting-house was completed. This first house of worship occupied by the Methodists of Xenia was erected on lot No. 151, the site of the present church, the same having previously been bought from James Towler for the sum of thirty dollars. This early meeting-house was built of brick and was thirty by forty feet in outer dimensions, twelve feet from the floor to the top of the wall, the foundation laid with stone and the whole "roofed in a workmanlike manner, joints, shingles, etc., and have a suitable number of winders." At that time Abbott Goddard was pastor of the church. This house of worship sufficed for the congregation until in 1824, when a brick addition, fifty by twenty-eight feet, was erected, the west wall of the original building being removed and the addition built on, making the completed building in the form of a T, with a door at the north and at the south ends of the new part, a door at each of the three sides of the old part and the pulpit a little north of the center of the west wall, where it could be seen from all parts of the house. This work was finished during the pastorate of Russell Bigelow. A belfry was added in 1832. The cemetery had been bought three years before. In 1835 the congregation accepted a lot presented to the church by John Alexander, Sr., for parsonage purposes, sold the old parsonage and on the Alexander lot, which has ever since been

used for that purpose, built a new parsonage. In 1845, during the pastorate of the Rev. W. H. Fyffe, the old church was taken down to give place for the new one, which was dedicated in December, 1846, by Bishop Morris. That was a rectangular building, fifty by seventy-five feet, to which a lecture room and class rooms were added to the rear in 1867. In 1883 the church was painted, re-frescoed and carpeted. In 1895 the congregation again outgrew its church home and the building was partly torn down, enlarged and remodeled into the present edifice, the dedicatory services being held from July 23 to August 2, 1896, under the pastorate of the Rev. J. J. McCabe.

In the pamphlet, "A Century of Service," mention of which has been made above, the claim is made that the Sunday school of the First Methodist Episcopal church at Xenia was the second Sunday school ever organized in the state of Ohio, one at Cincinnati having preceded it only a short time. That was in 1821 and Alfred Lorrain was the first superintendent. Since then the following have served as superintendents: Rev. John Gowdy, John Wilson, J. S. Perkins, B. G. Conwell, Nathan Nesbitt, A. B. Ferguson, William Sweny, Alfred Trader, Tobias Drees, Andrew McElwain, Prof. William Smith, Prof. J. P. Patterson, F. M. Shipley, C. L. Spencer, D. Q. Fox, William Meredith, Prof. E. B. Cox. Primary superintendents have been Mrs. M. Nunnemaker, Mrs. Catherine Wilson, Tobias Drees, Mrs. A. H. Currie, Mrs. Isaac Mowrer, Mrs. Mary Farber and Mrs. C. L. Spencer. From the time of the organization of the Sunday school in 1821 to the time of the celebration of the church's century of service in 1896 the enrollment of the school had increased from one hundred and eighty to an enrollment of three hundred in the main school, forty-three on the cradle roll, seventy-five in the home department, two hundred and twenty-five in the busy people's Bible class, thirty-four officers and teachers, making a total enrollment of six hundred and seventy-seven, and an average attendance of three hundred and thirty-six at the end of eighty-seven years of Sunday-school life.

The membership of the church at the time of the centennial celebration was seven hundred and twenty-five and there has been a normal increase since that time. Other departments of the church's activities are a vigorous Ladies Aid Society, a Young People's Society, formed in 1871 and later converted into the Marlay chapter of the Epworth League, a Junior branch of the Epworth League; a local auxiliary to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, a similar auxiliary to the Woman's Home Missionary, a Round Table Circle, a Young Ladies Circle, and children's organizations rendering service under the respective names of Standard Bearers, King's Heralds and Home Guards, all of which are reported to be doing effective work.

## TRINITY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF XENIA.

The history of this church follows that of the First church, above set out, up to the division in the early '60s, the original congregation having grown to such proportions by that time that it was considered expedient to organize a second church and on November 14, 1863, a second organization was effected under the name of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church. A lot was secured at the corner of Main and Munroe streets, the corner stone of the new meeting-house was laid on May 14, 1864, and the church was dedicated on October 1, 1865, under the pastorate of the Rev. George C. Crum. When Trinity congregation celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its beginning of service in this church on October 3, 1915, the following were given as the names of charter members still having membership in the congregation: Mrs. J. P. Chew, Wilbur F. Trader, Miss Belle Gatch, Rev. John A. White and Mrs. Henrietta Barnes McGervey. The first board of trustees, the men under whose direction the church was erected, consisted of Alfred Trader, William Sweny, Charles R. Merrick, Samuel Newton, Alfred Thirkield, Moses D. Gatch, William F. Pelham, John L. Connable and Henry Barnes. The pastors of the church during its more than half a century of service have been as follow: George C. Crum, 1864-66; John W. Fowble, 1867-68; J. W. Cassatt, 1869-70; M. Dustin, 1871-72; D. J. Starr, 1873-74; George C. Crum, 1875-76; W. N. Brodbeck, 1877-79; Sylvester Weeks, 1880-82; Davis W. Clark, 1883-85; A. N. Spahr, 1886-90; D. C. Vance, 1891-93; C. M. VanPelt, 1894-98; M. E. Ketcham, 1899-1901; R. H. Rust, 1902-05; J. R. Colley, 1906-07; O. P. Hoffman, 1908-12, and Hibbard J. Jewett, the present pastor, whose service dates from 1913.

The church and parsonage of Trinity congregation were built of brick, with dressed stone trimmings, at a cost of approximately thirty-five thousand dollars. The present membership is five hundred and thirty-two and all departments of the work of the church are reported in flourishing condition. The Sunday school, George H. Eckerle, superintendent, has an enrollment of four hundred and sixty-eight. Besides well-organized women's societies formed for the purpose of furthering both the home and the foreign missionary movements, there is an active chapter of the Epworth League and a Young People's Missionary Society. Trinity church has ever been noted for its excellent music, fine social spirit, generous giving to benevolences and loyalty to its pastors.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT JAMESTOWN.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Jamestown, located, as it is, at the corner of East Washington and Church streets, within one block of the center of the village, has always been closely identified with the moral and

religious progress of the town and township. The history of this church dates back for more than a century, or to the year 1806, when the Methodists in the settlement to the north of the present village of Jamestown began to hold services in the homes of those in that neighborhood holding to the Methodist faith; but it was not until twenty years later that a regularly appointed preacher came to look after this society by making it a part of the Brush Creek circuit, local preachers having in the meantime shepherded the flock. Charles Mahan, a man of extraordinary gifts, was the leader of the class in these early years and continued in this capacity until his removal to Indianapolis in 1833. Among the earliest members were Charles Mahan and wife, Moses Trader and wife, Isaiah Holloway and wife, Joel Dalby and wife, Robert Dobbins and wife, Jonathan Flood and wife, Hezekiah Clemans and wife, Philip Michael and wife, Thomas Horr and wife and George Shigley and wife. The Spahr family has from an early date been prominently associated with this society, and in 1836 the Spahr and Mahan societies united and erected a church in Jamestown. This first meeting-house stood on West Xenia street and was of brick, thirty by forty feet in dimensions. Gideon Spahr, George Long, George Shigley, John Mahan and John Davis were the trustees of the church at the time the building was erected. In 1852 that church was sold and the present site was secured at the corner of Washington and Church street. On that new lot was erected a frame church forty by seventy feet, with a height of twenty feet. In 1875 this second building was sold to the congregation of the African Methodist Episcopal church and was removed to make way for the present two-story brick edifice erected in 1876 at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars. An eight-room frame parsonage adjoins the church on the east and all the church property is free of debt. The present trustees of the church are George Weimer, John A. Thuma, J. Walker Binegar, George R. Bargdill, Dr. L. M. Jones, J. O. McDorman, Frank Shigley, S. A. Brown and J. A. Carpenter.

The list of pastors of the Methodist church at Jamestown, with the dates of their annual appointments, from the year 1852, follow: 1852, T. A. G. Phillips; 1853-54, Thomas Collett; 1855-56, Levi White; 1857, Jasse Botkin; 1858, E. H. Field; 1859-60, J. Newson; 1861-62, J. B. Ellsworth; 1863-65, John Vance; 1865-66, J. G. Black; 1867, J. M. Gatch; 1868, William Simmons; 1869, Jonathan Verity; 1870-71, Allen W. Tibbits; 1872-73, David Whitmer; 1874-76, John W. Mason; 1877-79, J. P. Shultz; 1880-81, Granville Moody; 1882-84, George W. Kelley; 1885-87, F. M. Clemens; 1888-92, J. S. Pumphrey; 1893, William Runyan; 1894-95, D. C. Vance; 1896-97, James Stephenson; 1898-1900, U. G. Humphrey; 1901-04, James P. Porter; 1905-06, Charles L. Conger; 1907-09,

W. M. Coffman; 1910-13, O. M. Sellers; 1914-17, C. W. Horn. The church has a membership of three hundred and thirty-eight and all its several departments of activity are reported in a flourishing condition. The Sunday school, J. Q. Adams, superintendent, has an average attendance of one hundred and seventy; Epworth League, Mable Walker, president, a membership of twenty-five; Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Mrs. Clara McDorman, president, forty-three members, and the Woman's Home Missionary Society, Mrs. Gertrude Taylor, president, forty-eight members.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT OSBORN.

The Methodist Episcopal church of Osborn was organized in the year 1871 through the efforts of the Rev. F. M. Clemens, then pastor of the Fairfield circuit, and for a while thereafter services were held by the new society in the Lutheran church, but in that same year, by the help of such families as those of I. K. Hostetter, D. W. Portney, Peter Light, Jonathan Cox, J. J. Whaley and other contemporaries holding to the Methodist doctrine, the first frame building was erected at the corner of Johnson and Pearl streets. In 1893 that house of worship was extensively remodeled. During the first twenty-one years of its existence the Osborn congregation was included as one of the appointments of the Fairfield circuit and was served by such ministers as James Black, A. D. Raleigh, James T. Bail and others. After the church was remodeled it became the head of the circuit, with the Rev. D. A. McColm as pastor, his services covering the period 1893-94; his successors served in the following order: W. M. Bratton, 1895-99; R. E. Smith, 1900-02; Frank Leever, 1902-05; Alexander Hamilton, 1906-07; J. C. Eckles, 1908-11. With the appointment of the Rev. J. M. Bennett in 1911 Osborn became a station. The Rev. E. T. Lane was the pastor during the years 1914-15. By September, 1916, the work of the Miami "conservancy" board had so discouraged the residents of the village of Osborn that even the church work was found to be faltering and as a result the Methodist churches of Osborn and Fairfield again joined hands in a half-station plan, with the Rev. Ernest T. Clark as pastor, and have so continued. The Osborn charge has a membership right around the hundred mark and has a Sunday school with an enrollment of one hundred and twenty-six members. F. W. Hamm, superintendent. The Epworth League, Roger Marquet, president, has a membership of twenty-three members.

#### SPRING VALLEY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Methodist Episcopal congregation at the village of Spring Valley has had a definite organization since the middle seventies of the past century and has been served during that period by the following ministers: C. H.

Lawton, 1876-78; S. W. Carey, 1879-80; David Whitmer, 1881-83; Henry Wittram, 1884-86; J. F. McCalm, 1887-90; J. E. Sentman, 1891-93; Frank Leever, 1894-96; John A. White, 1897-99; Philip Trout, 1900-01; John Wilson, 1902; W. M. Patton, 1903-07; G. R. Fregner, 1908-09; H. C. Hershey, 1910-12; H. O. Collins, 1913-15, and S. W. Wiant, since 1916. The present church on Walnut street was erected in 1908. It is a modern structure built of cement blocks, with a basement and prayer-meeting room, and is valued at forty thousand dollars. The parsonage is situated diagonally across the street from the church. Preaching is held on Sunday mornings every alternate week. The present membership of the church is given at one hundred and fifty-two. The Sunday school, E. N. Barley, superintendent, has an enrollment of one hundred and twenty-five, and the local chapter of the Epworth League numbers forty-six members. The local branch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society is affiliated with the Union circuit. Well-attended prayer meetings are maintained and there is an active Ladies Aid Society.

#### RICHLAND METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Rev. S. W. Wiant, mentioned above as the pastor of the Spring Valley church, also has pastoral charge of the Richland Methodist Episcopal church, located between the Cincinnati pike and the Burlington pike, three miles south of Xenia, where he preaches every other Sunday afternoon. The church in which the Richland congregation worships was erected more than half a century ago and is valued at about fifteen hundred dollars. Noble old forest trees stand in the yard. The list of the pastors who have served the people at Richland is the same as that presented above in connection with the history of the church at Spring Valley. Jeremiah Krepps, a member of the board of trustees, is the oldest living official of the Richland church. The Sunday school, Leander Spahr, superintendent, has an average attendance of thirty-five. An active Ladies Aid Society is maintained. All-day basket meetings are held at Richland annually.

#### GLADY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Gladly Methodist Episcopal church, which is also served by the Rev. S. W. Wiant, in connection with his charges at Spring Valley and Richland, was organized in 1835 by James Schnebly, James Baldwin and others, the new society holding meetings at Mr. Schnebly's residence until 1864, when it erected the present frame house of worship about two and a half miles south of Xenia, on the lower Bellbrook pike, the church property being now valued at about fifteen hundred dollars. The membership of this rural church is now about thirty-five and the list of pastors who have served the congregation

since the '70s is the same as that noted above in connection with the history of the Spring Valley church. This rural church has furnished many members for other churches. It has preaching on alternate Sunday afternoons and maintains a Sunday school. John A. Spitler, superintendent, with an average attendance of about twenty. The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society activities are carried on as a part of the work of Union circuit.

#### THE SARDIS METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

It was in 1820 at a meeting held at the home of William Davis, who had settled in Spring Valley township in 1817, that a Methodist society was organized by William Davis and Thomas McCool, both local preachers, Jacob Medsker, James Lyle and others, under the name of the Sardis Methodist Episcopal church. The society held meetings at the Davis home until 1828, when it built a log house of worship on the Davis farm, continuing to worship there until the development of the village of Spring Valley created there a social center which prompted the society to move to the village in 1850 and there erect a frame meeting house, this church becoming the nucleus of the church above referred to in the historical narrative relating to the Methodist church at Spring Valley.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT NEW JASPER.

It was about the year 1820 that the Methodists in and about the New Jasper settlement organized a society, the meeting for the same being held at the home of one Bone, where meetings were held for a time, or until the meeting place was changed to the home of Philip Spahr, the society not long afterward erecting a log meeting house on the Spahr farm. This answered the purpose for some years, at the end of which time a small brick house of worship was erected. In 1852 the congregation changed its place of worship to the village of New Jasper, where a brick church building, thirty by forty, was erected. Among the early ministers who served this church were the Reverends Sayles, Strange, Taylor, Trader, Clark, Collett, McDaniel, Ellsberry, Black, Tibbitts and Griffith. G. W. Matheson is the present pastor of the church.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT YELLOW SPRINGS.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Yellow Springs, pleasantly located at the southwest corner of Dayton and Winter streets in that village, was erected in 1846, at a cost of about thirty-five hundred dollars, and was remodeled in 1910, during the ministry of W. M. Patton, at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars. The new church has ample capacity for the needs of the community, has an excellent pipe organ, made possible through a donation from Andrew Carnegie, is embellished with three beautiful art windows and is recognized

as one of the best "country" churches in the state. The present membership of this church numbers three hundred and seventy-five souls and all departments of the work of the church are reported to be in flourishing condition. The roll of the Sunday school just about duplicates that of the church and is conducted under the present superintendency of J. B. Sparrow. The Epworth League numbers forty, Miss Mary Meredith, president; Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, president, Mrs. W. C. Lacy; Woman's Home Missionary Society, Mrs. C. S. Sheldon, president; Home Guards, Mrs. W. Curry, president, and Standard Bearers, Miss Pauline Sparrow, president. The official board of the church recently appointed the Rev. H. C. Middleton as pastor emeritus, in recognition of his distinguished service to the church during the period of his pastorate and since his retirement after forty years of service in the ministry, he having made his home in Yellow Springs since his retirement and the church thus profiting by his counsel and companionship. The present pastor of the church is the Rev. G. W. Matheson, who has been in charge since 1917. From the beginning and up to the term of Mr. Matheson's pastorate, the following ministers have served at Yellow Springs: Gideon C. Townley, 1852; Joseph J. Hill, 1853; Enoch G. West, 1854-55; G. W. Harris, 1856-57; Samuel A. Brewster, 1858-59; J. F. Spence, 1860; S. D. Clayton, 1861; G. W. Kelly, 1862-63; M. P. Gaddis, 1864-66; S. L. Yourtree, 1867; J. T. Bail, 1868-70; James Kendall, 1871-72; G. C. Crum, 1873-74; J. P. Shultz, 1875; H. M. Keck, 1876-78; T. W. D. Peake, 1879-80; W. H. Sutherland, 1881-82; W. H. Ramsey, 1883; Andrew Hamilton, 1884-86; J. G. Vaughan, 1887; Lafayette Young, 1888-89; H. C. Middleton, 1890-94; Reuben K. Deem, 1895-97; Calvin W. Elliott, 1898-1901; Benjamin D. Hypes, 1902-07; W. M. Patton, 1908-12, and C. H. Clarke, 1913-17.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT CEDARVILLE.

The Methodists in what is now the Cedarville neighborhood began holding services as early as the year 1804. For some time these services were held in the houses of such of the settlers thereabout as held to the Methodist faith and presently a formal organization was effected and a house of worship was erected in the village of Cedarville. The church thus organized has flourished ever since and is in a thriving condition. As long ago as in the '70s this congregation numbered right around two hundred and the present membership is about three hundred and fifty. In 1879 the substantial brick house of worship in Cedarville was rebuilt, the Methodists there thus securing one of the best church buildings in that part of the county. From the very beginning of this organization a flourishing Sunday school has been a valuable adjunct to the work of the church and the various other departments of the church's activities are also doing good work. The Rev. J. W. Patton is the present pastor.



## MT. ZOAR METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Many years ago the Methodists of Caesarscreek township erected a house of worship and held services under the congregational title of the Mt. Zoar church. Not only did the church building serve as a house of worship, but it was much used as a general social center and the old-time singing-schools which were made much of a feature in that neighborhood were conducted in the church. After a while the congregation ceased to exist as a separate organization and the church building gradually fell into disuse.

## OLIVE GROVE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Olive Grove Methodist Episcopal church was another early organization in Caesarscreek township, which was long ago disbanded. The first house of worship erected by this society was a log building erected on the Powers farm, but which was afterward removed to the site of what has for many years been known as the Olive Grove cemetery. This was another case of the rural church losing out in favor of the town and village churches and the Olive Grove society long ago gave up its separate history and the old church house was in time torn down.

## METHODISM IN ROSS TOWNSHIP.

About the year 1850 the Wesleyan Methodists of Ross township erected on the Daniel Little farm a church in which they held services until during the time of the Civil War, when the church ceased to exist as a separate organization. The building then passed into the hands of the Disciples, who held services in it until 1870, when they erected a building of their own in Grape Grove. The Protestant Methodists are said to have been the first of any religious denomination to hold formal services in Ross township, it being a matter of record that prior to 1820 they had been having preaching in various houses in the neighborhood, the principal place of gathering having been the one-room cabin of Berah Orcutt. One of the first ministers to preach there was Robert Dobbins. Z. Brown, an itinerant preacher, also occasionally stopped at Orcutt's and held meetings. About 1830 the congregation became organized under the name of the Bethel church, built a frame house of worship and continued to hold meetings for years, but the members finally became scattered and the old church was sold, the building later coming to be used as a barn.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT BELLBROOK.

The first Methodist Episcopal church in Sugarcreek township was built on the southwest corner of Thomas White's farm, where the Bellbrook road joins the Dayton pike, about two miles west of the village of Bellbrook. Afterward this organization erected a log house of worship on the site of what

later came to be the establishment of the Protestant church, after the separation holding their services in the school house west of Dawson's, where the society continued to worship until 1844, in which year it erected a substantial meeting house in the village of Bellbrook. Among the more prominent of the early ministers of this church were the Reverends James B. Finley, Christy, Bigelow, Raper, Latta, Chase, Newson, Webster, Fields, Hypes, Black, Conroy, Robinson, Verity, Shultz and Porter.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT CLIFTON.

Soon after the village of Clifton found a place on the map there was organized there a vigorous society of the Methodist Episcopal church and that organization has been maintained effectively ever since, the Methodists of Clifton having one of the most active of the lesser church organizations of the county. Not long after effecting an organization the Methodists at Clifton erected a comfortable little brick church, which was presently found to be too small for the purposes of the growing congregation and was sold to the township for school purposes. Upon the abandonment of this structure, Bates and Lewis presented to the congregation the lot upon which the present church stands and a new and adequate edifice was erected. The Clifton church has from the first enjoyed a prosperous state of development and the various departments of the church's activities have ever maintained active organizations.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT BOWERSVILLE.

At a meeting held in Haughey's school house in Jefferson township in the year 1845 under the direction of the Rev. Ebenezer Webster there was organized the society now and long known as the Methodist Episcopal church of Bowersville. John S. Perkins was the first class leader and the society started out with an excellent organization, which has ever since been maintained. Originally the church was included in the New Burlington circuit, but presently was transferred to the Sabina circuit. In 1851, under the ministration of W. S. Smith and Joseph Blackburn, the church conducted a notable revival and in 1855 a neat one-story frame building was erected at Bowersville as a house of worship. The present pastor is Reverend Moore.

#### METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH AT BELLBROOK.

The history of this organization is contemporary with that of the denomination to which it belongs. In 1828 the agitation for lay-representation in the Methodist Episcopal church culminated in the expulsion from that body of a large number of ministers and laymen whose protest against the episcopacy had placed them outside the pale of the church, and these vigorous "protestants" formed a new church to which they gave the name

of the Methodist Protestant church, thus embracing in the name of the new organization their principal objection to the old church, that is, a protest against the episcopacy. This revolution found the Methodists of Sugar-creek township worshipping in the old log meeting-house on the Thomas White farm about two miles west of Bellbrook. The new church found adherents in the congregation and among these "protestants" was Stephen Bell, the owner of the land on which the church stood. He dispossessed the regular Methodists and the protestants, or "radicals," as they then were called by some, retained hold on the old church and grounds, for which they received a deed in 1832, the first trustees of the new organization being Henry Harman, James Snodgrass and Thomas Sparks. In 1842 the congregation, seeking a more central location, built a new church at Bellbrook and has since maintained an effective organization there. Among the early pastors of the Methodist Protestant church at Bellbrook were Joshua Devore, John M. Young, Reuben Rose, Henry Brown, T. B. Graham, J. B. Walker, J. J. White, W. R. Parsons, William Overholtz and W. W. Creamer.

#### METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH AT ALPHA.

The Methodist Protestant church at Alpha was erected in 1872 by the united efforts of the Methodist Protestant and German Reformed organizations, but the latter did not long hold services there. The original trustees were composed of members from each body, Daniel Overholser and David Gray acting for the Methodist Protestants. The latter organization continued to maintain its identity and flourished from the very start, for many years being the only church organization in the village. It has a substantial brick house of worship and its various activities are maintained in excellent fashion. Among the early ministers who served this congregation were T. J. Evans, W. R. Parsons, Reuben Rose, William Overholser and W. M. Creamer.

#### METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH AT BOWERSVILLE.

The history of the Methodist Protestant church at Bowersville dates back to the year 1829, when, not long after the "protest" against the episcopacy of the Methodist church, a camp-meeting was held at Port William, in the neighboring county of Clinton, under the auspices of the "protestants." This meeting attracted much attention and aroused no end of interest among the people, particularly those of the Methodist faith, and not long after the meetings closed societies of the Methodist Protestants began to be formed in this and surrounding counties. A church was built by the converts in Jefferson township and the new society grew and flourished. This early house of worship stood alongside the Jamestown road

near the residence of John Ross, but as the social center gradually became more pronounced at Bowersville the church was moved to that village, where the church congregation has ever since maintained services, the church and its various activities being reported to be in a flourishing condition.

#### METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH AT PAINTERSVILLE.

The beginning of the present church of the Methodist Protestant communion at Paintersville, for many years one of the strongest church organizations in that part of Greene county, was effected after the "protest" against the bishops during the '30s and the organization has been a continuing force for good in that community ever since. Following the separation the Methodist Protestants in that part of the county erected a frame house of worship near the township center, east of the Mt. Zoar church to which they previously had been attached, and when the growth of the organization warranted a further stage of development moved to the village of Paintersville.

#### METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH AT SPRING VALLEY.

Not until 1849 did the protest against the episcopacy of the Methodist Episcopal church among the adherents of that faith in and about Spring Valley lead to a sufficient separation of the "protestants" to warrant the organization of the Protestant Methodists in the village. In that year, under the leadership of Michael Dougherty, M. A. Gest, Mrs. Johanna Morris and others, the Methodist Protestant church was organized at Spring Valley and has since maintained an organization there.

#### BETHEL METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

According to an older chronicle, the first religious denomination of any kind to hold services in Ross township were the Protestant Methodists, who had preaching at different houses in that neighborhood prior to 1820. These meetings were frequently held in the little log cabin of Berah Orcutt, which contained only one room, and here the settlers would gather on preaching days, bare-footed and in their shirt-sleeves. Robert Dobbins was one of the first ministers who preached here, and while he expounded the Scriptures, Mrs. Orcutt, in the same room, watched the boiling of the old iron kettle, which hung in the fireplace, and the baking of the corn-pone, with which the congregation were to be refreshed when the services were concluded. Rev. Z. Brown was also an itinerant preacher who frequently stopped at Orcutt's and held meetings. The congregation built a frame church about 1830, called the same Bethel church and meetings were held there for years thereafter, but the members finally became scattered and the old church building was sold and later became used as a barn.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF XENIA.

From an older chronicle it is learned that the first Baptist church in Xenia was organized on November 2, 1844, by nine persons who had taken letters from the Baptist churches at Cedarville and on Caesars creek for that purpose, the meeting at which the organization was effected being moderated by the Rev. T. P. Childs, who with his wife, the Rev. William McDonald and wife, Thomas McDonald, John Birth and wife and Ebenezer Hatch and wife, formed the nucleus of the present congregation. John Birth was clerk of the meeting, which received the letters of dismissal from another church presented by Mrs. Susanna Parcell and her daughters, Catherine and Martha. On the 30th of that same month the Rev. T. P. Childs was called as pastor of the church and in the following month formal services were begun in a building dedicated to that purpose. Upon its organization this church was attached to the Mad River association, but in 1846 became connected with the Caesarscreek association. In July of this latter year Mr. Childs resigned his pastorate and in the following December the Rev. S. Marshall became his successor. The latter served as pastor for something more than a year and was succeeded by the Rev. J. R. Downer, who entered upon his pastorate in June, 1848, continuing to serve the congregation until 1850, when he was succeeded by the Rev. G. D. Simmons, whose salary was fixed at four hundred dollars a year. Mr. Simmons found this salary inadequate to his needs and in May, 1851, resigned his pastorate, the church remaining without a pastor until in the following October, when the Rev. O. B. Stone accepted a call. Two years later Mr. Stone also resigned and in December, 1853, the Reverend Parmalee took charge, remaining with the church until his resignation in November, 1855. He was succeeded by the Rev. J. W. Weatherby, who served from January 12, 1856, to March 13, 1859, to be succeeded by the Rev. A. Guy, who served from December 1, 1859, until in June, 1865. In the following December the Rev. I. Childs entered upon the pastorate and continued thus to serve until March 1, 1867, to be succeeded in the following November by the Rev. A. B. White, who served as "supply" until March 25, 1868. In the following June the Rev. B. Bedell became pastor of the church and thus continued to serve for more than ten years, or until October 8, 1878. In the meantime the church building had undergone extensive improvements and the congregation in 1853 had been presented a good parsonage property, the gift of J. W. King and Thornton Lucas. It was in 1853 that the church witnessed the greatest revival it had ever known, thirty-six having been baptized, three admitted by "experience" and five, by letter. In 1877 the church roll showed a membership of one hundred and nine. Following the departure of the Rev. B. Bedell a call was extended to the Rev.

C. W. Currier, who was installed as pastor on January 16, 1879, and who served until 1886. He was succeeded in the following order by the pastors who have served the congregation since that time: James Rea, 1886-89; J. S. Wrightnour, 1889-93; T. B. Collins, 1893-96; D. G. Stevens, 1896-99; Albert Read, since 1899. Reverend Read has had the longest pastorate of any of the men who have served the congregation. The present membership is one hundred and eighty-nine. Harlan Fudge is superintendent of the Sunday school, Hugh McFadden president of the Young People's Society, and Mrs. Emma Simons president of the Ladies Aid Society.

#### MERCERS RUN BAPTIST CHURCH.

Another of the real old Baptist churches in Greene county is that known as the Mercers Run Baptist church in Caesarscreek township. This society was organized in 1818 by Aaron Lambert, one Hanby and a few others, who built a log meeting-house along Caesars creek about four miles east of Spring Valley. That site was used as a meeting place until along in the '70s, when the church building was destroyed by fire. The congregation then moved to the point it has since occupied as a meeting place, erected a new church and has ever since maintained an organization there. In the meantime, in 1844, the Baptists in and about the village of Spring Valley organized a society and in 1848 erected in the village a frame meeting-house, in which they held services until 1860, when, by reason of deaths in the congregation and the removal of many of the members, the organization was abandoned. This latter organization was led by Judge Clark and family, Washington Alexander and family and Elias Adair and family and until the church was built in Spring Valley held services in a log school house two miles west of the village. The Mercers Run congregation has enjoyed the services of some ministers of strong personalities during the long course of its continuous organization and has been a strong factor in the moral and social development of that part of the county.

#### MIDDLE RUN BAPTIST CHURCH.

What is said to be the oldest church organization in Greene county is the Middle Run Baptist church in Sugarcreek township, the church being located in section 35, not far from the Warren county line. The first house of worship erected on that site was a little log house which was built in 1799 by those of the very earliest settlers of that neighborhood who held to the Baptist faith. In 1832 that primitive log church was supplanted by a brick church building, which served the purposes of the congregation until in 1852, when it was torn down and a more commodious and convenient building of frame was erected. It is said that the chief distinction of these early Middle Run Baptists differentiating them from other Baptists was their

belief in what is known as "predestination," hence the name by which they came to be called, Predestinarian Baptists. The first minister of the Middle Run church was the pioneer preacher, John Clark, who was followed by Lemuel Cotterill. Following Cotterill came the Rev. Hezekiah Stites, who continued to serve the congregation as pastor for the remarkable tenure of forty years and whose influence for good in that community was marked in many enduring ways. Later the Reverends Read and Littleton served as pastors.

#### CAESARSCREEK BAPTIST CHURCH.

One of the oldest church organizations in the county is that of the Caesarscreek Baptist church, located on the dividing line between Jefferson and Silvercreek townships. The exact date of the organization of this society is unknown, but it was undoubtedly considerably more than one hundred years ago, probably about the year 1803. The first Baptist church in that neighborhood was the little old log church in Jefferson township for many years known as the "Iron Jacket" meeting-house. This building was finally abandoned and a new church was erected on the township line at the site ever since occupied by the congregation. During the '20s the pioneer preacher, Cottrell, was in pastoral charge of the church and he was followed by Sutton and Tuttle, also well-remembered pioneer ministers of the Baptist church. Sutton has been referred to as "a great preacher and a successful revivalist, whose words, like bread cast upon the waters, were gathered after many days." An English preacher of the name of Jones has also been referred to as one of the successful pastors of the church during the pioneer period. Others of the pioneer line were Reeves, Hummer, Stephens and Smith. When the little old log meeting-house became inadequate for the needs of the congregation a small brick structure was erected and this latter served as a place of worship until in 1873, when the congregation erected a much larger and more comfortable church building, one of the finest rural churches in the county. Adjacent to the church is the neighborhood burying ground which was established in that community at a date so remote as to be beyond the recollection of the oldest present inhabitant.

#### CAESARSCREEK BAPTIST CHURCH NO. 2.

On account of a difference of opinion on religious matters which arose in the Caesarscreek Baptist church, above referred to, in 1837 there occurred a division in that congregation which resulted in the withdrawal of about twenty of the members of the same, who, under the leadership of the Rev. George Reeves, organized a new society, built a new church, not far from the old one, and there held services until 1859, when their present house of worship was erected on what was long known as the Hatch farm in the

Rev. George Reeves served as pastor of No. 2 church for a period of eighteen years. At the time the new church was built in 1859 there was a membership of thirty-three, but by natural decline this number gradually became reduced until in the early '80s there were but seventeen members, the congregation at that time being ministered to by the Rev. Elias Reeves, son of the founder of the church, who preached once a month.

#### GERMAN BAPTIST (DUNKER) CHURCH AT ZIMMERMANVILLE.

The German Baptists or Dunkers of Beavercreek township have had an organization since the year 1805, when they began to hold services in accordance with their faith in the houses of members of this faith who had settled in and about the settlement that later came to be known as Zimmermans, or Zimmermanville, there being early a considerable colony of Dunkers there who had come over from Pennsylvania. The first deacons of the congregation were Moses Shoup and John Stoneberger and the early ministers who served the congregation were Elders Miller, Sigler and Shoup. Until 1843 the Dunkers continued to hold their services in the houses of members and then they erected a single-story frame structure, about thirty-six by seventy in dimensions, at Zimmermans, where they ever since have maintained their organization, holding services every other Sunday. During the '80s the ministers of this congregation were B. F. Darst, Henry Duncan and David Bates. Aaron Coy is the present pastor. Since the old days the German Baptists or Dunkers have gradually abandoned some of the distinctive customs that marked them apart from other religious denominations, the younger generation giving much less attention to the distinctive dress of the sect than did their fathers, but the old ritual of the church is maintained and there has been no diminution of the devotion of the members to the old faith.

#### MT. ZION REFORMED CHURCH.

In connection with the dedication of the new church at Mt. Zion in July, 1912, the Rev. J. F. Tapy, pastor of the Beavercreek charge of the Reformed church, issued an admirable and illuminative pamphlet under the title of "A Record of the Past," which carries a complete and comprehensive history of the old-established Mt. Zion Reformed church and which is acknowledged as the basis of the present briefer narrative relating to that church. The Mt. Zion church, situated on the Indian Riffle road in Beavercreek township, eight miles west of Xenia, was organized in 1845, in which year the congregation erected a substantial meeting house of brick which served as a house of worship for sixty-six years, or until torn away to make place for the new church which was dedicated on July 28, 1912.

Though there is a bit of confusion regarding the actual date of a formal organization of a congregation of the Reformed church in Beavercreek town-



ship, there is no question that the assemblage of persons of that faith in that township has rendered more than a century of continuous service thereabout. As early as the year 1800 Jacob Coy, a son of Jacob and Susanna Coy, who had come to this country from Germany and had located in Maryland, came to the Northwest Territory and settled on a farm in what later came to be organized as Beaver creek township, this county, his place being about two miles west of the present hamlet of Alpha. On that farm was erected what is believed to have been the first school house built in Beaver creek township. Jacob Coy had been reared in the faith of the German Reformed church and when other settlers holding that same faith began to find their way into that part of Greene county he became one of the leaders in the work of promoting a formal organization of a branch of the church here, the school house on his farm being used as a place of denominational worship as early as the year 1809. Just when the first formal church organization was effected is not definitely known. An earlier chronicle places the organization of the Reformed church as early as August, 1809, but Samuel Ankeny, one of the early settlers of that part of the county and for years an active member of the Reformed church, assigns the organization of Beaver Reformed congregation to the year 1817 or 1818. However, it is evident that the early settlers in coming into their new environment soon made for themselves a church home. Even though the first gatherings for public worship seem to have been attended by people of all creeds and were therefore undenominational, the denominational spirit was never lost and accordingly as early as 1809 settlers of the German Reformed faith gathered themselves together and held denominational services in the Coy school house. In 1817 or 1818 at a meeting held in Jacob Coy's barn under the direction of the Rev. Thomas Winters this band of worshipers was organized into the Beaver Reformed congregation. In 1820 or 1821 this congregation had assumed such numerical proportions that it was found inconvenient to continue holding meetings in barns and school houses and after considerable debate a site for a meeting house was selected on the northwest corner of the George Long farm, the place now occupied by the Beaver creek cemetery, and arrangements were made for the erection of a log meeting house to be used as a "union" church by both the Reformed and the Lutheran pioneers, articles of agreement being adopted by both congregations for the temporal interests of the church. In 1823 the Rev. Thomas Winters, who had "laid for the church these broad and deep foundations," was released and his son, David Winters, was called to the field. The latter was at that time still a theological student, but in 1824 he was ordained and was installed as the pastor of the Beaver Reformed congregation, a form of service he continued to render for twenty years, during which time the congregation increased in numbers from fifty to nearly two hundred and fifty, and during which time several other congregations of the Reformed

church were organized within the geographic bounds of the Beaver congregation, which is thus regarded as the mother church of the Reformed communion in Greene county. In 1833 a portion of the members of the Beaver congregation formed a separate church in Xenia and in 1837 others of the mother congregation found it convenient to organize the Union church in the vicinity of Byron. In 1840 another offshoot formed themselves into a separate congregation known as Aley's church and in 1845 developed the movement that led to the organization of the Mt. Zion church, about sixty of the members then connected with the Beaver congregation associating themselves together and erecting a church edifice at the point ever since known as Mt. Zion. The constitution of the Mt. Zion Reformed church was effected on August 28, 1845, the Rev. H. Willard, pastor of the Xenia charge, officiating; Jacob Coy and Jacob Rike being installed as elders and Solomon Glotfelter and Rignell B. Marley, deacons. Sometime prior to this date Michael Swigart, Henry Coy and Jacob Rike had been appointed trustees to superintend the erection of a house of worship in the northwest quarter of section 35, Beaver creek township, and on October 5 of that same year that house was completed and dedicated, articles of agreement being entered into at the same time whereby the house should be held and used as the joint property of the Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed congregations. The first minister of the Lutheran congregation was the Rev. Henry Heinicker, who was followed, in turn, by Roszen Miller, Solomon Ritz, John Geiger, John Ryder, ——— Ott and J. F. Schaefer.

The first minister of the Mt. Zion Reformed congregation was the Rev. David Winters, who for twenty years had been serving as the pastor of the Beaver charge and who for years had been riding over the fields and primitive roadways of Greene county carrying the gospel message to almost every corner of the county. A year prior to the organization of the Mt. Zion congregation the Beaver congregation was united with the Xenia and Caesars-creek congregations, forming a new charge, which called the Rev. Henry Willard as pastor, and Mr. Winters was thus released of his labors, but he still continued his charges at Dayton, David's (now of the Valley charge) and at Aley's, in addition to his labors at Mt. Zion. In 1850 further changes were made in the "circuit," Mr. Winters, however, continuing in charge at Mt. Zion, the congregation of which at that time pledged themselves for his support to the extent of one hundred and ninety dollars. In 1851 the Reformed church known as "Hawker's," on the Dayton and Xenia pike, was built, adding one more to the charges on Mr. Winters' circuit. Some time later Aley's ceased to be a "union" church and was left entirely to the United Brethren, who continue to occupy it. This church was built in 1838 on the farm of Jacob Aley, who donated the land for a meeting house, which was

built under the united efforts of the Reformed, the Lutheran and the United Brethren people. In the capacity of a "circuit" or traveling preacher David Winters served the above-named congregation until about 1885. A year or two prior to that date the Miami classis had proposed a reconstruction of charges, making the Xenia congregation a charge by itself and Mt. Zion, Beaver and Hawker's a separate charge, thus taking Beaver back into the group where she once stood. Beaver congregation objected to this and it was not until in November, 1885, that the reconstruction became effective under the decision of classis, Mt. Zion, Beaver and Hawker's thus becoming a separate circuit under the name of the Alpha charge, which name shortly afterward was changed to the Beaver creek charge, which it still bears.

During this reconstruction period Mt. Zion seems to have been without a regular pastor, but in February, 1886, the newly constructed charge extended a call to the Rev. J. B. Shoemaker, who declined the same, and in the May following the charge invited the Rev. J. H. Steele, then of the Mohican charge, to accept the pastorate of the Beaver creek charge. This call was accepted and in the following October Mr. Steele began his pastoral duties there. In the following March he carried on a series of evangelistic services which resulted in a gain of more than one hundred in the membership of the church. Mr. Steele remained pastor of the charge until December 25, 1892, when he accepted a call to go to the Grace Reformed church at Tiffin. During his pastorate numerous important improvements were made in Mt. Zion church and the Lutherans discontinued their services there. Mr. Steele's successor at Mt. Zion was the Rev. A. E. Baichley, who was installed as pastor of the Beaver creek charge on July 23, 1893, and who remained until his departure in April, 1895, to take charge of a church at Canal Fulton. During Mr. Baichley's pastorate there were eighty-five accessions to the church. The Rev. F. W. Hoffman, a young man just out of the seminary, was the next pastor of the Beaver creek charge, his pastorate extending from June 1, 1895, to July 1, 1900, during which period the general activities of the charge were strengthened and the membership increased. Mr. Hoffman's departure was based upon a call to the First Reformed church at Tiffin and he was succeeded by the Rev. J. J. Leberman, D. D., of Louisville, Ohio, who began his pastorate on September 30, 1900. A few weeks after Doctor Leberman's arrival at Mt. Zion his youngest daughter was the victim of a savage assault at the hands of a negro and this incident so turned the Doctor against the community that he declined to consider a definite installation as pastor and within less than a year left for Lancaster. About this time Beaver and Mt. Zion were made a separate charge in order that the respective congregations might have preaching every Sunday instead of every two weeks, and on December 22, 1901, the Rev. H. N. Smith, then of Culver, Indiana, became pastor of the charge, continuing that relation for two years, at the

end of which time he went to Pennsylvania. For some time thereafter Beaver creek charge was served by supplies, the chief of whom was Edward F. Evemeyer, then a senior in the seminary, and who upon completing his theological course accepted a call to Beaver creek and was installed as pastor on May 7, 1905. The Rev. Edward F. Evemeyer remained pastor until in November, 1905, when he left to take up the pastorate of the Fourth Reformed church at Dayton. During his pastorate extensive improvements were made in the church and parsonage and the general work of the charge was strengthened.

Following the resignation of Mr. Evemeyer the Beaver creek charge extended a call to the Rev. J. F. Tapy, then pastor of Trinity charge at Maplewood, this state. This call was presently accepted and on March 21, 1909, Mr. Tapy was installed as pastor of the charge, the installation ceremonies taking place at Mt. Zion. Even before Mr. Tapy had entered upon his pastorate it had been recognized that there was a great need of a new church at Mt. Zion and he began systematically to organize the movement which presently resulted in a decision to rebuild. At a congregational meeting held on December 6, 1909, it was unanimously voted that a fund should be started for a new church, building to be begun when this fund should reach the sum of seven thousand dollars. In due time this sum was in sight and on Sunday, June 11, 1911, the congregation worshiped for the last time in the old church that had served the congregation for sixty-six years. The corner stone of the new church was laid on September 3, following, and the first services in the new edifice were held on May 5, 1912. The new church was completed at a cost of about thirteen thousand five hundred dollars and was formally dedicated on July 28, 1912. The present membership of Mt. Zion church is one hundred and seventy-five. The Sunday school, Elmer Wetzal, superintendent, has an enrollment of two hundred and ten; the Woman's Missionary Society, Mrs. J. F. Tapy, president, a membership of twenty-five, and the Young People's Society, Jesse Johnson, president, forty. The parsonage property maintained by the Beaver creek charge was provided in 1886 at a cost then of something like three thousand dollars.

#### PISGAH REFORMED CHURCH.

In 1872 those of the residents of Beaver creek township living north of Zimmerman's who held to the faith of the Reformed church erected a meeting house about thirty by thirty-six feet in dimensions at the point where the road from Zimmerman's crosses the Dayton road, in the central part of section 34, and gave to the same the name of the Pisgah Reformed church. Prior to that time they had been holding services in the school house in that district under the ministrations of Father Lefevre, mention of whose name is made

in connection with the history of Mt. Zion church. Among the original members of this congregation were George Koogler, Eli Trubee and S. C. Bates. In the latter '70s and early '80s Adam Hawker was the pastor. This church has been discontinued many years, and the building is now used as a school house.

#### REFORMED CHURCH AT FAIRFIELD.

This church was organized in March, 1843, by the Rev. Thomas H. Winters, mentioned above, the first communicants of the congregation in Fairfield previously having been affiliated with the congregation of the Union church, four miles southeast of the village. Two years later Mr. Winters was succeeded as pastor by the Rev. J. S. Weise, who remained, however, but six months, at the end of which brief pastorate Mr. Winters again assumed charge of the flock. On March 1, 1845, Hiram Shaull was called to the pastorate. In the meantime the congregation had been pushing the erection of a house of worship in the village and in due time the same was completed and dedicated. During a revival held by Mr. Shaull in February, 1846, there were more than seventy accessions to the church. In the following July Mr. Shaull severed his relations with the congregation and was succeeded by the Rev. Jesse Steiner, who in 1852 was succeeded by the Rev. A. Z. Dale, whose successor was the Rev. H. K. Banes, who resigned in 1859 and was followed in October of that year by the Rev. J. Schlosser, who remained until 1867 and was succeeded by the Rev. J. M. Lefevre, whose pastorate terminated in 1880. Mr. Lefevre was followed by the Rev. J. T. Hale.

#### MAPLE CORNERS REFORMED CHURCH.

The Reformed church at Maple Corners in Caesarscreek township was organized about the year 1837, an offshoot of the old Beavercreek church, and the new congregation soon after its organization erected a substantial brick house of worship. The Rev. Thomas Winters was the first pastor and he was followed by his son, David Winters. In 1878 the Maple Corners congregation supplanted its old meeting house by a new and much more commodious brick church and services have ever since been maintained there. Maple Corners many years ago became a charge associated with the Xenia congregation and was thus served by the Rev. Henry Willard for some time after the pastorate of David Winters.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT JAMESTOWN.

Not long after Alexander Campbell had inaugurated the movement which led to the organization of the Disciples or Christian church, Walter Scott, one of Campbell's most effective followers, visited this community and by his preaching created an interest in the new society that was crystallized

in the organization of a church of that denomination at Jamestown, one of the prime movers in the organization being Oliver Hixon, and under the ministrations of the Rev. Matthew Winans a Campbellite society was organized at Jamestown about the year 1828, the initial membership of the same being about forty. The congregation built a brick house of worship, thirty by forty feet in dimensions, and under the ministrations of Doctor Winans the new society grew and flourished. Doctor Winans died in 1859, other influential members of the society, one by one, began to be called about the same time and, as an older chronicle puts it, "slowly but surely were the pillars of the church weakened." About 1865 a canvass of the situation revealed so great a decrease in membership that it was thought expedient to dissolve, which was done.

Those of the members of the organization living east of the village continued to hold meetings occasionally, however, in the school house about a mile east of town and maintained an organization which in 1873 had attained sufficient strength to warrant the erection of a meeting house and a building thirty by forty feet in dimensions was put up near by the school house, the Rev. John Irvin at that time being pastor of the flock, which numbered about fifty.

In the meantime, in 1835, there had been organized at Jamestown a "Newlight" branch of the Christian, or Disciples, church, under the ministrations of the Rev. Matthew Gardner. This society held services in the old Campbellite church until the latter was declared unsafe and was torn down in 1861, after which the church organization seems to have been practically suspended until 1871, in which year the Rev. Asa Coan, of Yellow Springs, reorganized the same and revived the society, which at that time had a membership of fifteen. A room was secured in the school house and under the pastorate of the Rev. Peter McCullough the membership was so rapidly increased that a year later there were one hundred and sixty-five communicants on the roll. Not long afterward this congregation erected what then was the handsomest audience room in town. In 1876 the Rev. B. F. Clayton was called to minister to the spiritual wants of the congregation and he served faithfully in that capacity until August 1, 1880, when he accepted a call to Rhode Island.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT BOWERSVILLE.

Many years ago there was organized at a meeting held in the house of Thomas Haughey a society of the "Newlight" branch of the Campbellite or Christian church, the congregation afterward holding services in the school house which then stood near the old mill-pond. The greater part of the members of this early society presently became affiliated with the Christian

church at Jamestown and did not carry out their originally expressed intention to erect a meeting house in the Bowersville settlement.

In the meantime, at a meeting held in the meeting house of the Methodist Protestants at Bowersville on November 23, 1851, under the direction of the Campbellite preachers, William Irvin, William Hayes and R. B. Henry, a society of that faith was organized with an initial membership of about forty. For a while thereafter this new society continued to use the meeting house of the Methodist Protestant and then they built a church of their own, a frame structure thirty by forty feet in dimensions. The congregation steadily grew in numbers and in 1874 the church was remodeled and enlarged. Soon after the congregation had effected a definite organization a Sunday school was established.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT GRAPE GROVE.

The Christian church people of Ross township have had an organization at Grape Grove for many years. Upon the organization of the society there services were held on alternate Sundays in the meeting house that had been built on the Daniel Little farm by the Wesleyan Methodists in 1850. During the period of the Civil War the Wesleyan Methodists ceased to exist as a separate congregation and the meeting house passed into the hands of the Disciples or members of the Christian church congregation, who continued to hold services there until they erected a new church building at Grape Grove in 1870. This was a neat frame building erected at a cost of something more than one thousand dollars. The congregation at that time numbered about eighty souls.

#### SUGARCREEK CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

The Sugarcreek Christian church in Sugarcreek township was organized in 1835 by Elder George Owens as the "Union Baptist Church of Jesus Christ," a name which the society continued to bear until 1846, when the present name was substituted therefor. Upon the organization of the society a frame meeting-house was erected in the central part of section 12, south-east of Bellbrook and that meeting-house was used until 1867, when a substantial brick edifice was erected in its place. Among the early ministers of this church besides its organizer, George Owens, were Joseph Weeks, Peter McCullough, Thomas Brandon, A. L. McKinney, C. C. Phillips, Peter Banta, R. Brandon, C. T. Emmons, H. Y. Rush, B. F. Vaughn and J. F. Ullery.

#### THE SILVERCREEK SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

According to an older chronicle it is apparent that the Society of Friends, or Quakers, in the community east of Jamestown in Silvercreek township, had an organization there as early as 1812, it being narrated that

Thomas P. Moorman was the first clerk of the meeting, the meetings for some time being held in the house of the Moormans, addresses being made there by such traveling ministers of the Quaker faith as came through this way. After a while a log meeting-house was erected about a mile southwest of Moorman's, there being then about fifty members of the society. There the Friends continued to worship until about 1838, when the log meeting-house was torn down and a more commodious structure of frame was erected in its place. This meeting-house in time also was outgrown and in 1873 the society erected a new meeting-house, a substantial edifice of brick, one mile east of Jamestown, on the Washington pike, there being at that time an active membership of about one hundred. Among the early ministers who served this meeting were Joseph Doan and Thomas Arnett. In 1866 the Rev. M. F. Moorman became the pastor and he continued to serve until in the '80s.

#### NEW HOPE QUAKER CHURCH.

It was not long after the beginning of a social order in that part of Greene county now comprised within the bounds of Caesarscreek township that the Quakers, who had put in their lot with the settlers of that community, effected a formal organization for worship and began to hold Sabbath Day meetings in the homes of such of the Friends thereabout whose humble abodes would properly lend themselves to the purposes of small public assemblages. Meetings continued thus to be held until about 1830, when the Society of Friends in that neighborhood erected a meeting-house about a mile west of the present village of Paintersville, where they were able to meet amid conditions less likely to create confusion. Among the early ministers of the New Hope church were those ardent Quakers, Jesse Faulkner, Thomas Arnett and Joel Thornburg, whose influence for good throughout that community was so firmly fixed on the social life of the settlement that it has been a continuing force to this day. During the latter '70s and early '80s Eber Haines was the minister at the New Hope meeting-house, but after his day the congregation gradually decreased in membership until it was no longer able to support a minister. It has not held regular services for some years.

#### SPRING VALLEY SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

The Spring Valley preparative meeting of the Society of Friends is one of the oldest church organizations in Greene county, the date of the first formal organization of the Quakers in that community going back to the year 1808, when Edward Walton, William Mendenhall, John Mendenhall and William Stanfield and their respective families effected an organization for worship and put up a little log meeting-house about three miles east of where later became established the village of Spring Valley. There the Quakers of that community continued to worship until 1844, when they built



a frame meeting-house near the village and there held their services until 1877, when they purchased the Baptist church in the village of Spring Valley and at the same time reorganized their society, changing its name from that of "Richland" to the "Spring Valley Preparative Meeting of the Society of Friends," the membership at that time numbering about one hundred. Rev. Lloyd is the present pastor.

#### THE LUTHERAN CHURCH AT XENIA.

The Lutherans of Xenia date their formal organization as a church body to the year 1843, when the Rev. J. Lehman preached to such adherents of that faith as then were living in Xenia, these first preaching services being held in the German Reformed church at the corner of Monroe and Church streets that later was bought by the African Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Lehman continued as pastor of this little flock until 1847, when he resigned and was succeeded by the Rev. Solomon Ritz, under whose direction in the following year a house of worship was erected by the congregation on West Main street. Mr. Ritz resigned in 1852 and was followed by the Rev. A. Bartholomew, whose service was terminated at the end of a couple of years, after which the congregation was served by the Rev. G. Peters and the Rev. J. Borns, as supplies, until the Rev. J. Geiger took charge in 1856. The latter resigned in 1859, after which the congregation was without a settled pastor until the Rev. J. F. Shaffer was installed as pastor on August 25, 1861. Mr. Shaffer continued as pastor for more than twenty years.

#### THE ALEY UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH.

Aley's church, which was noted as a center of religious activities in the northwestern part of Beavercreek township for many years, is located on the farm formerly owned by Jacob Aley on what is known as the "Fifth Street road" near the central part of section 10 of the township just named. Jacob Aley donated the land on which the church was built and hence it has ever borne his name. The first edifice erected there in 1838 was built as a result of a joint effort on the part of the United Brethren, the Lutherans and the adherents of the German Reformed faith then living in that community, the United Brethren occupying the church on alternate Sabbaths. Among the original members of the United Brethren congregation were the three Aleys, Jacob, John and Abram, David Costler and Jacob Fox.

#### ST. BRIGID'S CATHOLIC CHURCH AT XENIA.

From a historical sketch of St. Brigid's Catholic church at Xenia published in 1898 it is learned that in 1844 there were five Catholic families in Xenia and that some time in that year the Rev. Father Juncker, of Dayton, afterward bishop of Alton, celebrated mass for these communicants on the

porch of Jacob Klein's residence on Main street. During the years following other missionary visits were made from time to time and there is a record of the visit of Archbishop Purcell, of Cincinnati, and Rev. Father Rosecrans, afterward bishop of Columbus, in 1848, mass being celebrated on the occasion of this visit, nine communicants presenting themselves. Visiting priests from Piqua and Urbana continued to make visits to Xenia, services being held in the basement of the old court house, and in 1849 there was a definite effort made to organize a Catholic parish at Xenia, this effort being under the direction of the Rev. James F. Kearney, of St. Raphael's church, Springfield, the first baptismal record in the parish book, in the hand of Father Kearney, having been entered on the 11th day of August of that year. The first notation of a marriage in the parish is made under date of September 10 of that same year. In 1849 also were made notations with reference to funds collected for the purpose of church erection, these notations also being in Father Kearney's hand. In May, 1850, the Rev. Father Howard, of Springfield, was given spiritual direction of the little parish at Xenia and he continued the collections made by Father Kearney. The Rev. Thomas Blake in the latter part of 1851 became the first resident pastor of the Catholic parish at Xenia. He pushed the building movement, lots for that purpose having previously been purchased at the corner of Second street and the Xenia and Cincinnati pike, in Gowdy's addition, and the corner stone of St. Brigid's church was laid on Sunday, June 11, 1852, Father Howard making the address. It is understood that the first cost of the church was about five thousand dollars, but as the parish grew and its influence expanded additions and extensions were made, a parish school was built, a house for the teaching Sisters was bought and in 1894 a new parish house was built. The latest improvement in the parish was the erection of the substantial new parochial school which was dedicated to educational purposes in 1914.

At the beginning of his ministry at Xenia Father Blake had a wide field of labor, his activities extending to London, South Charleston, Corwin, Morrow, Waynesville, Loveland, Milford, Yellow Springs, Wilmington, Jamestown and other places and for years he required the services of three assistants to cover this parish. Pending the erection of the church Father Blake witnessed Catholic marriages in the parlors of the Ewing House, where for years he had his room. In 1885 Father Blake practically retired and Father Cunningham, of Yellow Springs, took charge of the Xenia parish. Father Blake died on July 24, 1886, and was interred in the basement of St. Brigid's church. Father Cunningham was succeeded in March, 1887, by the Rev. Joseph Stoeppelmann, who in October of that same year was transferred, the Rev. Isaac J. Hocter being appointed to succeed him. In the year 1894

the new parish house on Second street was erected. From 1890 the following priests assisted the pastor at Xenia: M. J. Loney, P. J. Shea, J. J. Shea, George F. Hickey, William J. Fogarty and Joseph G. Denny. In the fall of 1896 Jamestown was detached from the Xenia parish and since then St. Brigid's has had no assistant priest. On March 19, 1913, the Rev. James E. Quinn, of Cincinnati, was appointed priest of St. Brigid's and has since been in charge of the parish. The various departments of the parish's activities are well organized and all are reported in a flourishing condition.

#### COLORED CHURCHES OF THE COUNTY.

The large colored population of Greene county is well supplied with churches of several different denominations. The following townships have churches: Cedarville, African Methodist Episcopal and Zion Baptist; Miami, African Methodist Episcopal (Yellow Springs), Baptist (Yellow Springs) and Baptist (Clifton); Silvercreek, African Methodist Episcopal and Baptist, both in Jamestown; Xenia, Middle Run Baptist, Zion Baptist, Third Baptist, First African Methodist Episcopal, St. Johns African Methodist Episcopal, Third Methodist Episcopal, Wesleyan Methodist, First Christian, Holy Christian and what is locally known as the "Holy Rollers." This makes a total of sixteen colored churches in the county. There are a few colored people who belong to the Catholic church at Xenia.

The pastors of these several colored churches in 1918 are as follow: African Methodist Episcopal, Yellow Springs, Harry Maxwell; African Methodist Episcopal, Cedarville, F. H. Mason; First African Methodist Episcopal, Xenia, P. S. Hill; St. Johns African Methodist Episcopal, Xenia, P. A. Nichols; Third Methodist Episcopal, Xenia, J. H. Payne; Wesleyan Methodist, Xenia, S. S. Walker; Zion Baptist, Cedarville, H. O. Mason; Baptist, Yellow Springs, Frank Liggins; Baptist, Clifton, C. M. B. Lewis; Middle Run Baptist, Xenia, W. C. Allen; Zion Baptist, Xenia, G. W. Becton; Third Baptist, Xenia, A. M. Howe; First Christian, Xenia, W. W. Williams; Holy Christian, Xenia, Rev. Bell; "Holy Rollers," Xenia, Mrs. Thomas.

Practically all of these congregations have church buildings of their own, some of those in Xenia having fine edifices. The St. Johns and First (or New Site) Methodists and the Zion Baptists of Xenia have the largest colored congregations in the county seat, and the largest in the county.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### THE PRESS FOR A HUNDRED YEARS.

The history of the newspapers of Greene county for the past hundred years is difficult to trace owing to the fact that the files of a great majority of the papers which have been published in the county in the past have not been preserved. The newspaper has played an important part in the life of the county; in fact, it is impossible to overestimate the benefit of a good newspaper to a community. The statement is frequently made that our civilization is largely moulded by the press, pulpit and platform, and of the three agencies, the press of today probably occupies the ranking position. There is not an improvement advanced, not a new idea broached, which does not find a ready advocate in the columns of the local papers. Uniformly they have stood for the best interests of the communities which they seek to serve; there may be exceptions, but as a rule, the local papers can be depended to stand on the right side of public questions, particularly as they may affect questions of local portent.

#### THE OHIO VEHICLE.

The first newspaper in Greene county was undoubtedly *The Ohio Vehicle*, and the best evidence points to its establishment in January, 1814. Fortunately there has been preserved a partial file of the paper for the year 1815, the same being in the newspaper collection of the Greene county library, but the first issue in the small bound volume kept there is dated Tuesday, February 14, 1815, Vol. II, No. 5. If the paper had been issued regularly each week since it was established, its initial number would have appeared in January of the preceding year. The bound file above referred to contains most of the issues of the *Vehicle* for 1815 up to and including the issue of Tuesday, October 24, 1815. No other issues of the paper have been seen by the historian, and for this reason it is not known how long it continued publication.

This first newspaper in Xenia was a small, four-column folio, published by Pelham & Smith, but who the publishers were, where they came from, whether they established the paper, and how long they continued to issue it—all these are unanswered questions. Neither Pelham nor Smith were identified with any other paper in the county as far as is known.

## THE PEOPLE'S PRESS AND IMPARTIAL EXPOSITOR.

On May 24, 1826, there came into existence a new paper in Xenia bearing the cumbersome title of *The People's Press and Impartial Expositor*. James B. Gardiner, as editor and proprietor of this new sheet, seems to have been a good newspaper man, if his paper may be any criterion by which to judge his ability. A bound file of his paper is in the collection of the Greene county library, and it has the appearance of being much better than the average sheet of its day. It continued to come from the press, and presumably without any break in its issue, until it was consolidated with the *Xenia Gazette* on January 1, 1829. It is evident that it changed its name slightly, since Langdon, the editor of the consolidated paper in 1829, refers to it as the *Ohio People's Press*, of Gardiner.

## OHIO PEOPLE'S PRESS, AND XENIA GAZETTE.

Sometime in the '20s, or it may have been earlier, there were two papers in existence in Xenia at the same time. One was the *Ohio People's Press* and the other was the *Xenia Gazette*. Not a single copy of the latter paper has been seen by the historian, the proof of its existence resting upon a copy of another paper which has been preserved. The paper in question bore the lengthy title of *Ohio People's Press, and Xenia Gazette*, and the first issue of this paper, January 1, 1829, Vol. I, No. 4, explains in its editorial column that it is a consolidation of two previously existing papers bearing these respective titles. Richard C. Langdon, the editor of the consolidation, states in his salutatory that the papers had been edited by James B. Gardiner and Henry E. Spencer, respectively. Gardiner's paper has been discussed.

Spencer was at one time mayor of Xenia, a practicing attorney and was interested at one time or another with the newspapers of the town. He came from Cincinnati in about 1826 and began the practice of law, but in the summer of 1828 he established a campaign sheet known as *The Cornet* (not the *Comet*, as has been stated in other histories of the county). He was an ardent follower of John Quincy Adams and his paper was to sound the praises of Adams, who was making the race for the presidency in 1828. Some time before January 1, 1829, Spencer seemed to have changed the name of his paper to the *Xenia Gazette*; at least, on that date Langdon became the owner of the former papers of Gardiner and Spencer and from the double-barrelled title he gave his paper it would seem that Gardiner contributed *Ohio People's Press*, and Spencer *Xenia Gazette*, the new sheet carrying the ponderous heading *Ohio People's Press, and Xenia Gazette*. The comma and conjunction indicate the parentage of the sheet, which, from its subsequent history, must have been prematurely born. Spencer soon left Xenia and returned to Cincinnati where he died in February, 1882.

Langdon changed the title of his paper after eight issues, the edition of March 5, 1829, Vol. I, No. 9, carrying the title of *Farmers' Record, and Xenia Gazette*. The editor explains in this issue why he changed his name by saying that his former title was not sufficiently descriptive of his paper; that it covered too much territory. Furthermore he advanced the proposition that there were so many papers bearing the name "press" that there was liable to be confusion. The "*and Xenia Gazette*" part of his title was run immediately below "*Farmers' Record*," and he always made use of the comma in separating the parts of the heading, thus indicating the parentage of his sheet.

But neither the new name of the paper nor all the energy that Langdon could bestow upon it was sufficient to make it successful. He managed to last exactly one year. When his fifty-second issue was reached he evidently did not have the heart to say farewell to his faithful subscribers, but in his next weekly issue, January 7, 1830, he indulged in a long valedictory to his short list of subscribers. He said that the people of the county had not supported him, and made the statement that he had only two hundred and seventy-five subscribers, although the county had a population of between ten and eleven thousand. Furthermore, only three merchants of Xenia patronized his advertising columns. In the concluding paragraph of his farewell Langdon referred to the fact that during that week a wagon load of new press equipment had gone through Xenia bound for Oldtown, and that Messrs. Farnsworth, of Xenia, were going to establish a paper in that village. This is the only reference to any newspaper in Oldtown, but it appears from the best evidence that Langdon was wrong in stating that the Farnsworth brothers went to Oldtown with the newspaper plant. Instead there is every evidence to indicate that they went to Yellow Springs and started a paper in that place. One of the local historians of that town credits Oliver Farnsworth with establishing a paper there in 1830, and this was evidently the paper to which Langdon refers in his valedictory of 1830.

#### SOME FORGOTTEN PAPERS OF THE '20S AND '30S.

It is unfortunate that complete files of the newspapers of the county have not been preserved, for without the papers themselves it is impossible to tell much about them other than their names. And, strange as it may seem, even the names of some of them are obtainable only from fugitive references to them in other papers of their time. But the files of most of the early papers have completely disappeared and only the most fragmentary knowledge of their existence is left to tell their story.

One of these transitory sheets breathed its last in the fore part of 1827, and if it were not for a passing reference to it by the *People's Press* it would

probably have remained unknown. On April 12, 1827, Editor Gardiner of the *Press* had the following notice in his newspaper: "After the publication of this week's paper, the office of the *People's Press* will be removed to the upper east rooms in Mrs. Davidson's Stone House near the Public Square, and formerly occupied as the office of the late *Xenia Register*." This is the only notice of the *Register* which has been seen by the historian, but it undoubtedly records the passing of one of the early papers of the town. The stone house of which mention is made is undoubtedly the one still standing on Market street opposite the county jail, the same which it is said Doctor Davidson erected in 1814.

Another of these sheets, so local authorities aver, was called *The Xenia Transcript*, and Thomas Coke Wright is credited with being its editor some time between 1829 and 1833. Another was *The Xenia Free Press*, which was established by J. H. Purdy in November, 1830, and seems to have had a more or less consecutive career for about a decade. A bound file of the *Free Press* for 1837 is now owned by The Chew Publishing Company. This paper may have been the immediate successor of the *Farmers' Record*, and *Xenia Gazette* which was laid to rest by Langdon, as before stated, on January 7, 1830. Of this, however, there is no evidence, and only a file of the paper would prove it. A fourth paper of the '30s is credited to William D. Galligher, his sheet being known as *The Backwoodsman*. It is given a traditional birth in 1830, but not a single copy has been seen by the historian in any of the collections in the county. Another lost sheet of the '30s bore the scintillating title of *The Democratic Spark*, a name which at least betrays its politics. It is supposed to have come from the brain of one Ramsey about 1838. It was evidently one of the many campaign sheets of the day. No copies are to be found in any of the newspaper collections of the county.

#### THE GREENE COUNTY GAZETTE.

One of the papers of the '30s which has a definite history is *The Greene County Gazette*, a complete file of which is preserved in the Greene county library. It made its initial appearance on December 24, 1835, under the joint ownership of Albert Galloway and Thomas Coke Wright. Whether this paper was the immediate successor of another paper, the editors fail to state, but since Wright had been connected with *The Xenia Transcript* it is possible that it followed his paper. Wright withdrew from the paper with the issue of November 17, 1836, his valedictory stating that he had disposed of his interest to his partner, Galloway, because he had been elected county auditor. It might be said here that Wright held this office for eighteen consecutive years, or until 1855. He later served as recorder from 1860 to 1866.

Galloway seemed to have begun to look around for another partner at

once, and in the issue of January 3, 1837, Vol. II, No. 1, David Douglass, Jr., is announced as a new member of the firm. But the paper was not destined to live much longer. In fact, only twelve more editions came from the press, the issue of March 28, 1837, Vol. II, No. 13, announcing "that with this number its publication will be suspended for a time, or discontinued entirely." After dilating upon the fact that the paper needed something besides the good will of the public to pay its bills, the editors inform their few subscribers that if the paper did not resume publication within four weeks they might consider it indefinitely suspended. It did not appear within the specified time. The paper had been a consistent opponent of the democracy of Jackson and may be said to have been the first Whig paper of the county. This party needed a county organ and it was this need which led up to the establishment of the next paper in Xenia—*The Torchlight*.

#### THE XENIA TORCHLIGHT.

For half a century the *Xenia Torchlight* cast its refulgent rays over Greene county, and at times in its long career its radiance reached to all corners of the state, and even to many other states of the Union. From the day of its first appearance on September 18, 1838, until its final absorption by the *Xenia Gazette* on August 7, 1888, the *Torchlight* was a virile sheet and one which at times was quoted as much as any paper in the state published in a town the size of Xenia. At various times in its career it had some of the best-known writers in the state connected with it. Two of Ohio's best poets were once in its editorial chair, and in the days when Otway Curry and Coates Kinney were associated with it they made it one of the leading county papers of the state.

Politics was responsible for the beginning of the *Torchlight*. The desire of the Whigs of the county to have an organ to support the candidacy of William Henry Harrison for the presidency fully accounts for the establishment of the paper in 1838. The prime mover in the agitation for the paper was E. F. Drake, and it was at his initiative that a subscription paper was circulated among the leading Whigs of the county asking for subscriptions, the subscribers "to pay the amount opposite their names, the money to be applied to the purchase of a printing press and material, and the procuring the necessary apparatus to put in operation a Whig newspaper at Xenia."

The names of these Whigs of the '30s were as follows: E. F. Drake, Charles F. Merrick, John Sexton, Thomas Marshall, Daniel Martin, James A. Scott, Samuel Puterbaugh, John Walton, Jacob Bechtell, Joshua Martin, Robert D. Pogue, N. C. Baker, A. G. Zimmerman, Alexander Connor, G. C. Lauman, Samuel Newcome, John Kendall, John Ewing, John Harbison, Albert Galloway, Samuel Lamme, James Bratton, Bazil Keiler, Alfred



Trader, Ebenezer Steele, George W. Wright, Nathan Nesbit, Thomas C. Wright, John Keiler, John B. Allen, A. Harlan, T. M. Perkins, Robert Stevenson, John McBride, James Galloway, James Collier, Jonathan Fallis, Jeremiah Gest, A. Hivling, Jr., J. H. McPherson, H. G. Beatty, C. F. Beall, Alexander B. Beall, John Hivling, Brinton Baker, L. Wright, Samuel Powell, B. Newkirk, Samuel Crumbaugh, Smith Persinger, Walter King, John Ankeney, Isaac S. Perkins, Samuel Galloway, David Hanes, Moses Collier, John S. Perkins, James McMillan, Silas Roberts, R. F. Howard, Tinsley Heath, William Lewis, Aaron Collett, Andrew Galloway, Conwell & Company, Pugh Sterrett, Benjamin Towler, John Stevenson and Cummings & Conwell.

At least two of the sixty-nine stockholders had been connected with one of the county papers, Albert Galloway and Thomas C. Wright having been the founders of *The Greene County Gazette* in 1835, a paper which led a wavering existence for about two years. It is probable that these two men were largely instrumental in the selection of Pazzi Lapham, of Urbana, as the editor and general manager of the proposed paper. When the first issue of the much-advertised paper appeared on September 18, 1839, its subscribers were awed by a long title, to wit: *Greene County Torch-Light and Xenia Advertiser*. This long and unwieldy heading continued at its mast until July 11, 1839, when it was shortened to *Greene County Torch-Light*, the editor being careful to hyphenate the illuminating part of his title. On the same day this abbreviated heading made its bow to the public it was announced that W. B. Fairchild had become a member of the firm as business manager. Some time between the issues of March 5, 1840, and April 16, 1840, Fairchild retired from the paper, and Lapham is stated to be the sole "editor and proprietor." The issues between these two dates are missing from the bound files in the Greene county library, and it is therefore impossible to tell the exact date when Fairchild retired.

For some reason which the editor failed to explain, the name of the paper was completely changed with the issue of May 14, 1840, Vol. II, No. 36. On this date it appeared under the title of *Ohio People's Press* and, bearing this comprehensive heading, it passed into the hands of W. B. Fairchild on September 3, 1840. Lapham stated in his valedictory that his health made it imperative that he retire from the paper. The new editor and owner was evidently not impressed with the changed title of the sheet, and for this reason he changed it back to *Greene County Torch-Light* with the issue of November 12, 1840. With only a slight variation in name it continued under **this title** until its final absorption by the *Gazette* in 1888. Less than three years after taking hold of the paper Fairchild, on June 15, 1843, sent forth his valedic-

tory, a farewell greeting to the people of the county, in which he took occasion to announce that "no power but that to which we all must bow can prevent the election of Henry Clay to the presidency in 1844." If he was not a better newspaper man than prophet, a reason for his retirement from the paper may be seen.

The burden of handling the paper was turned over to Otway Curry and Robert McBratney upon the retirement of Fairchild in the summer of 1843. Curry had won state-wide fame, and even had attracted some national attention, by his poetry, but it takes more than mere poetical skill to run a newspaper. Whether it was lack of this necessary skill, or whatever the reason may have been, the fact remains that the *Torchlight* in its issue of June 10, 1845, carried the valedictory of Curry. With the retirement of Curry, McBratney became the sole owner and editor of the paper, and so continued until June 22, 1853, when W. E. Morris bought an interest in the paper. But his connection with the paper was only of short duration, McBratney soon again assuming its complete control. When the new Republican party made its appearance in 1854 and two years later nominated John C. Fremont for the presidency, the *Torchlight* threw all of its strength to the new party and its first candidate for president. McBratney continued to fight for the principles of the new party until January, 1857, when he sold his paper to its former owner, W. B. Fairchild, and Dr. H. R. McClellan.

Fairchild was as uncompromising a foe of slavery as McBratney had been, and his vitriolic editorials on slavery and secession fairly took his opponents off their feet. One has but to read a few of his editorials in order to see that he was a master of satire and possessed of a facile pen which was not afraid to set forth what he believed to be the right. Doctor McClellan soon had enough of the newspaper business, and six months after becoming identified with the paper disposed of his interest to E. S. Nichols, June 10, 1857. Nichols had also been previously connected with the paper.

The new firm of Nichols & Fairchild conducted the paper through the opening days of the Civil War and up until April 1, 1862, when the paper passed into the hands of W. T. Bascom, a practical newspaper man from Columbus, who continued as editor and proprietor until the issue of September 21, 1864. The *Torchlight* of this date carried the valedictory of Bascom and the salutatory of Perry Hawes, the new owner, who apparently was ready to relinquish it in favor of others about a year later. Whatever the reason may have been, the issue of December 6, 1865, appeared under the name of Coates Kinney and J. M. Milburn, to whom Hawes had sold the paper. Kinney and Milburn remained at the helm until January 1, 1869, at which time they turned it over to the tender mercies of a stock company, Dr. R. S. Finley and C. W. Newton being the chief owners of the stock of the newly organized *Torchlight* Company. Kinney will be remembered by the older

residents of the county as one of the best poets of his day. His poem, "The Rain on the Roof," was copied in nearly every newspaper in the United States, and occupies a place among the best poems ever written in the country.

The last twenty years of the *Torchlight* were not as prosperous as the first twenty years of its existence. Other papers had arisen in the county seat; it had keener competition; it seemed to be waging a losing fight. The stock company of 1869 did not prove a success, and the following year J. D. Stine took over the controlling interest in the paper, becoming its editor and business manager. Stine was an excellent newspaper man. A graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University in 1859, he had served as superintendent of the London, Ohio, schools from 1859 to 1864. He became connected with the *Madison County Union* in 1863 and, after retiring from the city schools of London, became the sole editor and proprietor of the paper, continuing as such until he came to Xenia in 1870 to take charge of the *Torchlight*. Stine associated himself on coming to the *Torchlight* with Oscar W. Marshall, under the firm name of Stine & Marshall, and for the following eight years this firm had charge of the paper. In 1878 Stine purchased the interest of his partner and continued in sole charge until 1887. About 1884 Stine began to issue a daily edition, but subsequently it appears that Thomas G. Brown, then postmaster, and Joseph G. Gest were associated with him in the daily paper. In 1887 Stine sold the entire plant to Ben R. Cowan, of Cincinnati. Cowan put considerable money into the paper in an effort to compete with J. P. Chew and the latter's *Gazette*, the two papers being rivals in the local field at the time. But Chew was too resourceful and too able a newspaper man for Cowan, and the latter finally decided that he had had enough of the newspaper business in Xenia. On August 7, 1888, Chew bought the entire plant of the *Torchlight*, and thereby brought to a sudden end the career of a paper which had maintained a continued existence since its first issue of September 18, 1839. When Chew bought the *Torchlight* he turned over a large number of bound files of the old paper to the library.

The first home of the *Torchlight* in 1839 was in a frame building at the corner of Market and Detroit streets, the site later occupied by the German Reformed church. From here it was moved to a room over what is now the Woolworth store on South Detroit street, remaining in its second location until 1879. In that year it was moved to No. 12 West Main street, over the Scott tinshop, where it remained until it closed its career in 1888.

#### THE XENIA GAZETTE.

The life history of a newspaper presents as interesting a study as that of the men who publish it; oftentimes the paper is really more interesting in many ways than the men who make it. To follow the career of the *Xenia Gazette*, to keep trace of its ups and downs, its lean years and its

fat years, is to follow its weekly and daily life from the time it made its initial appearance on August 15, 1868, down to the present time.

The *Gazette* was born of a desire to give the people of the county seat and the county of which it was an integral part, a paper which would reflect the best that the county had to give the world. In 1868 Xenia was a flourishing city of six thousand; the Civil War had just closed; the whole country had taken on new life; everybody seemed ready to start life anew. It was under such conditions that the *Gazette* made its bow to the public.

During the spring and summer of 1868 a number of the leading citizens of the county had been agitating the question of a new Republican paper in the county seat; various plans were discussed for the establishment of a new paper, some wanting a stock company, and others feeling that the responsibility should be centered in a very small group of men. The final decision of all those interested was to leave the matter in the hands of three public-spirited citizens—J. F. Patton, Thomas L. Tiffany and Warren Anderson. Tiffany was the practical printer of the three, while Anderson was to furnish the editorial brains of the company. Subsequently, Anderson became one of the best known newspaper men in the state of Ohio.

Tiffany was ordered to purchase entirely new equipment and within a short time had concluded arrangements with a Cincinnati type foundry for such equipment as was necessary to establish a paper of the size which had been planned. The company installed what was known as the "Wells Power Press," the first cylinder press in the county. The initial issue on August 18, 1868, called for eight hundred copies of the paper, although the subscription list did not contain that many names. Anderson, however, made the paper a success from the start, and within a month the subscription list had increased to twelve hundred. During the two years that he remained with the paper he had the satisfaction of seeing it become the most valuable newspaper property in the county, but for some reason he decided in the fall of 1870 to dispose of his interest in the paper and go West. He sold his interest to Col. R. P. Findley, the new firm being known as Patton, Tiffany & Findley. The next change in the personnel of the firm was brought about by the death of Tiffany on September 28, 1870. His widow soon disposed of her interest in the paper to Patton and Findley, and the new firm continued in charge of the paper until May 25, 1875, at which time Colonel Findley purchased Patton's interest and thereby became the sole owner of the paper. A little more than two years later, November 1, 1877, Findley sold his entire interest in the paper to The J. P. Chew Company and the Chew family have been connected with the paper since that year—more than forty years. In fact, it might be said that as far as ownership is concerned, it has made practically no change since 1877. J. O. McCormick, a son-in-law of J. P. Crew, was connected with the *Gazette* for thirty-five years.

The present The Chew Publishing Company was organized in the summer of 1915, with a capital stock of \$70,000, in order to take over the properties of the *Xenia Gazette* and the *Xenia Republican*, the consolidation of the two papers taking place on Monday, August 16, 1915. The company now has the following officers: J. A. Chew, president and treasurer; J. P. Chew, vice-president; W. B. Chew, secretary. The directors of the company are J. A. Chew, J. P. Chew, W. B. Chew, F. W. Chew, J. B. Chew, A. V. Chew and M. A. Chew.

When the amalgamation of the two papers took place, it was planned to issue the *Republican* as a morning daily and the *Gazette* as an evening paper, and this policy has been continued. The *Gazette* has been issuing a daily since November 21, 1881, having come to a sudden decision to start a daily edition because Anderson, the editor of the *Nonparcil*, had made a public announcement that he was going to start the first daily paper in the town. The *Gazette*, in the language of the newspaper fraternity, "beat him to it," and so flustered was Anderson by the sudden appearance of a daily from the office of his rival that he changed his mind about establishing his daily edition. There is still issued a weekly edition of the *Gazette*, but it circulates only in the rural sections of the county. The first home of the *Gazette* was on the third floor of the brick building at the northeast corner of Main and Whiteman streets. From there it was moved to the room now occupied by the Bijou Theatre on Greene street, where it was located when the Chews took charge of the paper in the fall of 1877. Subsequently they took the paper to the second floor of the building now occupied by the Peters Dry Cleaning Company and the Adams Express Company. Here the paper was destined to remain for thirty-five years, leaving this site for its present quarters on South Detroit street. The company now owns the building in which it is located.

The Chew Publishing Company is a fine example of what can be done with a newspaper plant in a city the size of Xenia when it is properly managed. The company does no job printing at all, but devotes all of its attention to its two daily and weekly papers. For local and foreign news, as well as advertising mediums there are no better papers in the state for a town of its size, a fact which is attested to by the large amount of local and foreign advertising which the papers carry. The two dailies have a combined circulation of over five thousand. J. A. Chew, the third of the generation, is the general manager of the papers; J. P. Chew, the first of the family to become identified with the paper, and a man of eighty-six years, is the editor; W. B. Chew is assistant manager; F. W. Chew is the advertising manager; C. F. Ridenour is the city editor; Rose Higgins and Raymond Higgins are reporters; Katharine Landaker is bookkeeper and Janice Owens is stenographer. There are three linotype operators and five other printers connected with the mechanical force.

## THE XENIA NONPAREIL.

If the paper established on November 7, 1878, by Warren Anderson had lived up to its name, there could have been no doubt concerning its prosperity. Just what flitted through the brain of Anderson when he christened his paper the *Xenia Nonpareil* will never be known, but he must be given credit for originality if nothing else. In the history of the *Gazette*, it was noted that Anderson was one of the owners and the first editor of that paper, maintaining his connection with the *Gazette* until the fall of 1870.

In this connection it is fitting to give a brief sketch of this man, who, in many respects, was a remarkable man. He was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, May 28, 1832, and when six years of age accompanied his parents to Elkhart county, Indiana, where he grew to manhood. Before he reached his majority he was clerking in a store at Goshen, Indiana, and when twenty years of age was teaching a rural school a few miles south of Goshen. In 1854 he was back in Ohio and clerking in a book store of an uncle on Wolf creek, ten miles west of Dayton. In 1856 he entered Antioch College and remained there until he was graduated in 1860. He taught for the following two years, one year being principal of a so-called Industrial Academy, near Richmond, Indiana. In 1862 he located at Goshen, Indiana, to study law with George D. Copeland, and when his preceptor bought the *Goshen Times* the same year, Anderson was promptly installed as assistant editor. He remained with the paper, at the same time continuing his law studies, until the summer of 1863. The fall of that year found him teaching in Miami county, Ohio, but in the spring of 1864 he resigned his school and enlisted as a member of Company I, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Regiment, Ohio National Guard. He saw active service in the field before his final discharge from the service on August 30, 1865.

It was at this time that Anderson first became identified with Xenia. He located in that city after securing his discharge and took up the study of law with R. F. Howard. In the winter of 1865-66 he taught school at Alpha and in the following year served as principal of the Xenia high school. In February, 1867, he was appointed mayor of Xenia, and in the following April was elected to the office for the regular term of two years. In April, 1869, he was admitted to the bar, and in April of the following year was admitted to practice by the supreme court of the state.

In the meantime, however, he had been one of the organizers of a company to establish the *Xenia Gazette*. The history of that paper shows his connection with the newspaper life of the city up to 1870. In November of that year Anderson located in Ottawa, Kansas, where he proceeded to establish the *Ottawa Herald* on December 4. In 1871 he sold his paper and pur-

chased an interest in the *Journal* of the same place, but a year later sold his interest in that paper on account of failing health. He had been admitted to the Kansas bar in December, 1871, but did not devote much of his time to the profession, confining most of his attention to his newspaper business. In the fall of 1872 Anderson returned to Xenia and resumed the practice of law, but the following year found him back in the newspaper business as editor of the *Xenia Enterprise*. He continued his connection with the newspapers of the city until he established the *Yellow Springs Review* in 1880. He became mayor of Xenia again in February, 1876, by appointment, and served out an unexpired term.

To return to the history of the *Xenia Nonpareil*. Anderson issued the first number of this sheet on November 7, 1878, but the name was evidently too much of a burden for it to carry. At least, on a bright, summer day in 1879 he dazzled his readers by sending it out under the name of the *Xenia Sunlight*. One is left to wonder whether Anderson was not under the spell of the *Torchlight*.

#### THE XENIA SUNLIGHT.

The *Sunlight* of Anderson proved to be such a radiant affair that he induced Oscar W. Marshall to become his partner with the beginning of January, 1880. But Anderson was not destined to continue his connection with the paper much longer. May 18, 1880, witnessed his departure and the transference of his interest in the illuminating sheet to J. M. Milburn, the new firm being known as Marshall & Milburn. The paper was a staunch Republican organ and took a prominent part in the campaign of 1880; in fact, its office was the headquarters of the Republican county committee. The name of the paper was eventually changed to the *Xenia Republican*, under which name it continued until absorbed by the *Gazette* in 1915.

#### THE XENIA REPUBLICAN.

The history of the *Republican* during the years that it was an independent paper shows that it became one of the best papers the county has ever had. The firm of Milburn & Marshall remained in charge of the paper for several years, and then Milburn disposed of his interest to John A. Beveridge, the new firm continuing under the firm name of Marshall & Beveridge. The firm was dissolved by the death of Beveridge, Marshall then becoming the sole owner and proprietor. The next change in ownership resulted in the paper passing into the hands of Frank L. and Burch Smith, brothers, on January 1, 1907. Under their management the paper began to show a marked improvement, new equipment being added and within a short time it became a real news and advertising sheet.

The Smith brothers sold the paper to Austin M. Patterson, who took charge on January 1, 1912. The new owner proceeded to inaugurate a new era in Greene county journalism. He was a man of fine scholastic attainments and introduced to the readers of his paper a number of new features which soon made it a prominent factor in the life of the county. He was a fearless writer and had no hesitancy in his advocacy of reform measures of all kinds. Patterson had charge of the paper for about two years, disposing of it in February, 1914, to the Xenia Publishing Company.

The new owners were four local men, the company being officered as follows: J. F. Orr, president; W. D. Wright, vice-president; C. F. Ridenour, secretary; George F. Eckerle, treasurer. The new owners proposed to make the paper as strong a contender as possible for a position among the papers of the county. C. F. Ridenour, who had been connected with the *Xenia Gazette* for a number of years, became the business manager and editor, while J. F. Orr, one of the owners, and at the time the postmaster of the city, conducted the editorial column. Orr also wrote special historical articles of real merit and the result was that the paper soon had a large subscription and advertising patronage. Ridenour was a practical newspaper man and knew the value of news, while he had a peculiar literary style that gave the paper what newspaper men are wont to call a "pleasing personality," an expression coined by Horace Greeley. For about eighteen months the paper made its daily appearance under the new management before it was consolidated with the *Xenia Gazette*. The merger of the two papers took place on August 16, 1915, and since that date both papers, the *Republican* and *Gazette*, have been issued by The Chew Publishing Company. The *Republican* is issued as a morning daily and the *Gazette* as the evening issue. Upon the consolidation of the two papers the present Chew Publishing Company was organized with a capital stock of seventy thousand dollars, the officers of the new company being as follows: J. A. Chew, president and treasurer; J. P. Chew, vice-president; C. F. Ridenour, secretary. The first directors of the new company were J. A. Chew, J. P. Chew, W. B. Chew, F. W. Chew, J. B. Chew, J. F. Orr, C. F. Ridenour and C. L. Darlington. The subsequent history of the company is given in the sketch of the *Xenia Gazette*.

#### THE XENIA ENTERPRISE AND THE XENIA NEWS.

The *Xenia Enterprise* was established in 1872 by Frank Funk and John H. Fahey as an independent paper, but its career was never very prosperous. Within two years Funk was ready to sell out to his partner, and about the same time Coates Kinney, the poet, became the editor. This change in ownership and the addition of the distinguished poet as editor also brought about a change in name and it became known as the *Xenia News*.

Fahey remained the sole owner and Kinney the editor only one year



after the change in name, the year 1875 seeing the retirement of Kinney as editor and the acquisition of a half interest in the paper by W. V. Luce, who also became the editor. At this time the paper became Democratic in politics. Melville Mordecai Gaunce bought the paper on September 14, 1876, and continued as sole owner and editor until he disposed of it to Lewis H. Whiteman in 1894. The paper was consolidated with the *Democrat* sometime between the issues of December 15, 1877, and January 5, 1878. The paper was known as the *Xenia News* with the issue of December 15, 1877 (Vol. IV, No. 43), but when the issue of January 5, 1878, (Vol. IV, No. 46) appeared the paper carried the new title of *Xenia Democrat-News*. The issues of December 22 and 29 are missing from the files, but it would appear certain that the January 5 issue, the first of the year, was the first one to carry the new heading. The paper continued to be known as the *Xenia Democrat-News* until it was sold by Gaunce to Whiteman in 1894. Gaunce and Whiteman, both newspaper editors and both Democrats, were the candidates for the postmastership of Xenia when Cleveland began his second term, and Whiteman was the successful candidate. Sometime after he had taken the office Gaunce made a proposition to him to buy his (Gaunce's) paper, saying that the county could hardly afford two Democratic papers. Whiteman bought the paper of his unfortunate Democrat brother, and consolidated it with his own paper, the *Xenia Herald*.

#### THE XENIA HERALD.

The *Xenia Herald* had been established by Lewis H. Whiteman in 1890, and for fifteen years he owned and edited it. His first office was over Norkauer's grocery on West Main street, later moving it to its present location. As before stated Whiteman became the owner of the *Democrat-News* in 1894, and the paper to this day carries the names of the three former Democrat papers of the city at its head. The next owner of the *Herald* was George C. Barnes, of Sabina, a practical newspaper man and also a lawyer, who purchased the paper from Whiteman in 1905. When Barnes sold the paper a year later to the present owner he returned to Clinton county, where he is now serving as probate judge.

Harry E. Rice took possession of the paper on October 1, 1906, and has since continued as sole editor and owner. The paper issues only a weekly edition at the present time, although for a number of years in the '90s, Whiteman issued a daily edition. Since Rice became postmaster in 1916 he has not had the time to devote to his paper that he formerly had, although he is still the editor. He is a writer and author of note, one of his novels, "Eve and the Evangelist," receiving some very complimentary notices from the reviewers.

## SOME SHORT-LIVED SHEETS OF XENIA.

A number of papers with abbreviated careers have already been mentioned, most of them coming in the days before the Civil War. There are still a few more to be mentioned, although it has not been possible to get much definite information concerning them.

The first daily paper in the town seems to have been started by James Winans, and to have made its appearance in the latter part of the '70s or the fore part of the '80s. J. P. Chew, of the *Gazette*, states that Winans had a small daily paper before the *Gazette* started its daily on November 21, 1881. Winans printed his paper on a job press in a room on the second floor of the building which occupied the site of the present Steele building. It is not known how long this first daily came from the press, but it was only a short time.

A more pretentious daily was owned and edited by J. J. Horen in the middle of the '90s, his paper bearing the name of the *Daily Review*. It was printed in a room over the old Eavey wholesale house on West Main street, and it appears that it was a very creditable sheet. The present editor of the *Gazette* says "it was good stiff opposition." The paper lasted about three years.

The last paper to appear in Xenia was known as *The Tribune*, a temperance sheet, which was transplanted from Cedarville where it had been started by Stephen C. Wright as the *Cedarville Record* in 1903. Wright sold the paper in 1911 and it was brought to Xenia and turned into an anti-saloon sheet, the year 1911 marking the last concentrated attack on the saloons of the county seat. The city went dry in April of that year and for a time the *Tribune* was in a fairly prosperous condition, but it could not attract the advertising support to make it successful, especially when there were already two flourishing daily papers and one weekly paper in the field. Its career in Xenia lasted only about a year.

## CEDARVILLE NEWSPAPERS.

The history of the newspapers of Cedarville is not as complicated as that of some of the other towns of the county. The present *Herald* has practically an unbroken history for about forty years under the same name, and for the past eighteen years the same owner and editor has been in charge, hence it may be said that the ownership of a paper in Cedarville has been uniformly a successful venture.

It is definitely established that the first paper in the town was the *Enterprise*, that it made its first appearance on December 20, 1877, and that it was published by H. M. Northup. In June, 1878, James Miller, a practical printer, joined Northup and the plant was moved from its first location, a room

on South Main street now occupied by C. H. Stuckey & Son, to the "Bar-racks." Unfortunately, the files of the paper are not complete and this makes it impossible to follow the successive changes in ownership and name of the paper. In February, 1878, the name of the paper was changed to *The Herald* and became known as *The Cedarville Herald* in 1900.

The files are missing prior to 1887 when W. H. Blair became the sole owner and editor, and this makes it impossible to trace the shifting ownership from 1878 to that year. A stray copy of 1882 shows that George B. Graham was then the owner and editor and it seems certain that he immediately followed Northup. The names of four owners are recalled as being connected with the paper between 1882 and 1887, namely: A. R. Van Fossen, George McNarney, a man by the name of Young, who tried to make a prohibition paper out of it, and James Winans. But the succession of owners for the past thirty-one years is definitely established. W. H. Blair became the owner some time in 1887 and continued as sole owner until April 25, 1896. He was followed by Rev. D. C. Woolpert, who appears as owner and editor with the issue of May 2, 1896. He sold to S. M. Ramsey, the latter taking hold with the issue of October 2, 1897. Ramsey was in charge of the paper for about eighteen months, disposing of it to J. Robb Harper and Karlh Bull, operating under the firm name of Bull & Harper, who appear as owners for the first time with the issue of April 8, 1899. The new firm continued to publish the paper regularly for a little more than one year, when Bull acquired his partner's interest. The paper has carried the name of Karlh Bull as owner and editor since April 28, 1900.

These eighteen years have seen the paper placed on a firm basis. The paper is issued weekly and is devoted primarily to local news. The office is equipped to turn out all kinds of job printing. Editor Bull at this writing expects to establish the paper in more commodious quarters on Main street, opposite the opera house, where he will be able to inaugurate several improvements which he has been contemplating. Wilbur D. Nesbit learned to set type in the office of the *Herald* and his brother, J. Emerson Nesbit, now city editor of the *Dayton Herald*, also learned the trade in the *Herald* office. J. N. Wolford, the owner and editor of the *Yellow Springs News*, is another newspaper man who got his start in the office of the Cedarville paper. One of the greatest newspaper men the United States ever produced, Whitelaw Reid, was born and reared at Cedarville, but left the town before it had a newspaper. It seems that Reid's first newspaper experience was with one of the Xenia papers, Reid making the statement in after years that he was editor of a paper in the county seat in the fall of 1858. G. A. McClellan, also of Cedarville, has headed several metropolitan papers in Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Florida, and Dayton, Ohio, and today is manager of a large magazine published in New York City.

## THE CEDARVILLE RECORD.

The *Cedarville Record* was established in 1903 by Stephen Calvin Wright, who continued as owner and editor of the paper until he sold it in 1911, when he assumed the postmastership of Cedarville. Wright had graduated from Cedarville College in 1903, and after leaving the postoffice on July 1, 1914, became financial secretary of his alma mater. In that same year he was made head of the newly organized normal department of the college, resigning that position in August, 1917, to become deputy probate judge of the county. After he sold the paper in 1911 it was taken to Xenia, where it was issued as a prohibition paper for a short time under the name of the *Tribune*.

## YELLOW SPRINGS NEWSPAPERS.

The history of the newspapers of Yellow Springs is hard to follow for the reason that there are no files of any of the papers extant before the '80s, and the files of the several papers since then are very incomplete. The first definite record of a newspaper being established in the town shows that Warren Anderson issued the first number of the *Yellow Springs Review* on October 9, 1880. Anderson was referred to in the papers of Xenia as the "Great American Newspaper Starter," and between the years that he established the *Xenia Gazette* in 1868 and his founding of the *Yellow Springs Review* in 1880 he had established at least half a dozen other papers. His connection with the *Review* was more abbreviated than his connection with some of the other papers he had founded, but the absence of the files renders it impossible to say what he did with it.

The decade from 1880 to 1890 seems to have found only this one newspaper in the town, but the succession of owners and editors is not known. David L. Croy appears as editor and owner in the fall of 1890, having purchased the paper from N. A. C. Smith. In the fall of the following year the Citizens Printing & Publishing Company started a new paper, the *Weekly Citizen*. Its first issue, August 7, 1891, bore the double heading *The Weekly Citizen and Yellow Springs Review*, indicating that the new paper had absorbed the *Review*. The second issue of the paper dropped the *Review* part of the title, and thereafter it was simply known as the *Weekly Citizen*. The new paper was edited by L. A. Elster, and either he or the company publishing the paper soon wearied of the task, for within less than two years the company was trying to get rid of it. The issues in the fore part of 1893 show that E. H. Williamson had leased it. It was too much of a burden for him to carry, and the issue of June 22, 1894, shows that James R. Hale had the courage to try to make a success of the unfortunate sheet.

The newspaper situation in Yellow Springs in the '90s is very much confused, the confusion arising from the fact that the editors were careless in

keeping their volume and issue numbers consecutive. Another difficulty in unravelling the newspaper puzzle of the '90s comes from the juggling of titles, the same paper in some instances appearing under a new guise every time it changed owners. The *Weekly Citizen* went to bed one night in 1894 and appeared on the streets the following week labelled the *Yellow Springs Torch*, Hale apparently thinking to thus make it a more illuminating sheet. Under this latter name it appeared for the first time on July 13, 1894.

The *Yellow Springs News* has now had a continuous career since its first issue, July 24, 1896. Its founder, O. C. Wike, was a practical newspaper man, and within three years had built up his paper to a point where the other newspaper of the town, the *Review*, was ready to sell out to him. The *News* bought the *Review* on May 18, 1899, and Wike conducted the only paper in the town from that date until he disposed of it to J. N. Wolford on September 18, 1905. Wolford has since remained the sole owner and editor of the paper and during the thirteen years that he has had charge of it he has had the field entirely to himself. The *News* is a weekly, published each Friday, Republican in politics, and does not pretend to be any more than a local paper. The paper enjoys a circulation of eight hundred, and an advertising patronage sufficient to make it a good paying proposition to its owner. The newspaper plant is well equipped to do all kinds of job printing on short notice.

#### JAMESTOWN NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper in Jamestown made its appearance in 1870 and since that year the town has always had at least one paper and at times there have been two published at the same time. The history of the papers of the town has been furnished by W. J. Galvin, now vice-president of the Journal-Republican Company of Wilmington, Ohio, but who was for years connected with the Jamestown papers. The Galvins, father and son, W. S. and W. J., have been connected with the local papers since the first one made its appearance in 1870. To give the account of the papers in the language of W. J. Galvin:

"The first paper in the town was the *Echo*, established by W. S. Galvin in 1870. Mr. Galvin (the senior Galvin) has remained as editor, with the exception of a few short stretches, ever since and is the editor today. It was first called the *Echo*; then in succession the *Tribune*, *Comet* and *Journal*. In 1898 the *Greene County Press* was established in the town, which paper, in 1910, was consolidated with the *Journal*, the paper since the latter year being known as the *Greene County Journal*. Among the men who have been editors of the paper for short periods, either in connection with W. S. Galvin, or alone, have been W. H. Rowe, H. B. Zartman, W. H. Blair and W. A. Paxson."

W. S. Galvin, the present owner and editor, is the oldest editor in the county in point of continuous service with a Greene county newspaper. The only other editor of the county who approaches him in point of continuous service is the senior Chew, who has been connected with the *Xenia Gazette* since September 1, 1877. Chew had previously been the owner and editor of a Lawrenceburg (Indiana) newspaper, and has actually had longer newspaper connection than the senior Galvin, but the latter holds the record for longest connection with a Greene county newspaper. The *Greene County Journal* is a weekly publication with a substantial circulation in the community. The office of the paper is equipped with a job press and does a considerable amount of job printing.

#### OSBORN NEWSPAPERS.

The newspaper history of Osborn promises to be a thing of the past within a short time, and for this reason the history of the papers of the town for the past half century has a peculiar interest for the historian. In this town, as in all the others of the county, the absence of newspaper files makes it difficult to give more than a cursory view of the press of the town. As early as 1866 there is evidence to show that the *Osborn Bulletin* was being published, but it seems that it was printed in Dayton. It is not known who was responsible for it, nor how long it maintained its existence, but it was undoubtedly only a short time. The second paper of which any record has been preserved bore the illuminating title of the *Osborn Star*, but it soon flickered out and the town was again without a newspaper.

The first definite date for a paper in the town may be put down as July 9, 1882, on which date the *Mad River Times* made its debut. This has had a number of owners, among them being Warren Anderson, known as the "Great American Newspaper Starter." Evidently Anderson went from the *Yellow Springs Review* in the early '80s to the Osborn paper, and it is equally certain that he did not remain long with the latter paper. The present owner, J. A. Hardman, has been connected with the paper for several years and has made a financial success of it. It was issued under the name of the *Mad River Times* until sometime in the '90s, when it was given its present name, *Osborn Local*.

#### BELLBROOK AND SPRING VALLEY NEWSPAPERS.

There were newspapers in both Spring Valley and Bellbrook in the middle of the '80s, but neither village was large enough to make a newspaper a profitable enterprise. With no files of papers of either town it is impossible to give more than a general statement of the newspaper history of the two places. The *Bellbrook Magnet* followed shortly after the discovery of the

famous magnetic springs in the village in 1882, its name being suggestive of the qualities of the water. It is not known how long the paper was in existence, but subsequently a paper bearing the lunar title of the *Bellbrook Moon* was credited to the village. How long it maintained its orbit is unknown, but its radiance was never very dazzling and it soon disappeared below the newspaper horizon.

Spring Valley seems to have had its first paper in about 1886; at least, a paper bearing the name of the *Spring Valley Blade* was then in circulation. The duration of its life can not be ascertained without files of the sheet, and they have long since disappeared. Another paper of Spring Valley, whether the second or not is not known, but certainly it has been the last, was given the title of the *Twin City Vidette*, the twins being Spring Valley and Bellbrook. The *Vidette* seems to have had a more or less consecutive career for some years prior to 1909, in which year it ceased publication. James R. Hale, now of Columbus, was at one time connected with the papers of these two towns, later becoming identified with one of the papers at Yellow Springs.

#### SMITH ADVERTISING COMPANY.

The Smith Advertising Company opened for business in its present quarters at Xenia on January 1, 1912, the Smith brothers, Frank L. and Burch, having just retired from the *Xenia Republican* after an ownership extending over a period of five years. They were both thoroughly in touch with the various phases of printing, a fact which accounts for their unusual success as manufacturers of advertising specialties of all kinds. They opened their new business in a large brick building on East Main street, a building which had been originally erected for a wholesale grocery establishment shortly after the Civil War. It is a large structure, two stories high, with 20,000 feet of floor space, all of which is devoted to their business. In addition they have been compelled to erect other buildings at the rear in order to house the large amount of paper stock which they find it necessary to keep on hand.

When the Smiths decided to go into the manufacturing of advertising specialties, they purchased new equipment throughout, and their present equipment is of the most modern type. Among other publications they print two magazines of wide circulation: *Womens Missionary Magazine* and *Wood Construction*. The former publication was established in Xenia in 1887 as the missionary organ of the United Presbyterian church and has always been published in Xenia. It was formerly issued by the *Xenia Republican*, but when the Smith brothers sold the paper in 1912, they reserved the magazine and have since been issuing it. The present editor is Mrs. George Moore, of Xenia. It is a monthly publication with a subscription list of ten thousand going to all parts of the world. *Wood Construction* is the official organ of

the Ohio Association of Retail Lumber Dealers, and has been issued for the past four years. It is a semi-monthly publication under the editorial management of Findley M. Torrence, of Xenia. Torrence is the secretary of the association and for the past two years has also edited the magazine, during which time he has greatly improved it. Many other publications are also issued from the presses of the Smith Advertising Company.

There are few people in Xenia who realize that the product of the Smith Advertising Company reaches all corners of the earth. The name "Xenia" is found on advertising specialties in all the civilized countries of the globe. During the spring of 1918 the company was getting out millions of specialties printed in Spanish for distribution in Cuba and South America, and this is only a part of the season's output. Recently there were hundreds of thousands of advertising specialties sent from this company's presses to Egypt. These advertising specialties take every conceivable form, the fact that the Smith brothers have so many original ideas accounting for the large volume of business they handle yearly. The output of the company is second only to that of the local cordage companies. There is no gainsaying the fact that the Smith Advertising Company does more to spread the name of Xenia abroad over the world than any other industry of the city.





FRANK L. SMITH



BURCH SMITH



## CHAPTER XXXII.

### THE BENCH AND BAR OF GREENE COUNTY.

The lawyer has been found in Greene county from the beginning of its history; he arrived here with the first blacksmith, the first carpenter, the first minister of the gospel. The lawyer, no matter how meagre may have been his legal equipment, was looked upon in the early days with somewhat the same reverence that was accorded the preacher. And the follower of Blackstone has been a very important factor in the development of the county; in fact, if it were possible to determine his proportionate share of the credit for the present prosperity of the county, it would be found that he was entitled to more than the general public is wont to give him.

No one will ever know how many lawyers there have been in the county. Certainly, the earlier attorneys were prone to wander more widely than their brothers of later years. The same lawyer may be found credited to half a dozen or more counties in the ante-bellum days of the state. It is probable that the county has claimed at least one hundred and fifty lawyers in the course of its history of more than a century. The last record shows that there are now thirty men in the county who have been admitted to the bar and therefore entitled to practice before the local courts, a larger number than the county ever previously has had.

It is a fruitless task to attempt to classify the lawyers of the county on the basis of their respective abilities. They are of as varying abilities as men in any other vocation in life; some are strong, some are weak, and some mediocre. In these latter days lawyers specialize in different departments of the practice, but half a century ago most of them were what might be called all-around practitioners. It is true that some of them were better jury lawyers than others, or that some preferred civil to criminal cases, but the fact remains that in the early days of the county the average lawyer was willing to attempt to handle any kind of a case.

Any discussion of the early lawyers of the county would be incomplete which did not make mention of the conditions under which they practiced. Very few of them were college trained; most of them obtained whatever legal education they had by reading law with some member of the bar. Some of them evidently never even had this privilege, but gathered their stock of legal knowledge by reading alone. There were some of the old-time "squires"

who branched out as full-fledged lawyers later in life, their legal knowledge being a curious compound of what they picked up from the statutes and a manual of law which was placed at the disposal of every justice of peace in the state, together with a large and comprehensive stock of good common sense.

Under the old constitution of the state, that is, the one which was in operation until 1851, each county in the state had three so-called "associate judges," who served with the "presiding judge." These associate judges very rarely, if ever, had any legal training, nor were they supposed to have any. There can be no question that these untrained local judges dispensed justice with as fair and impartial a hand as if they had been learned in the law. Wherefore could they not be as competent as the ordinary jury of twelve men. When William Maxwell, Benjamin Whiteman and James Barrett, the first three associate judges of Greene county in 1803, took their respective seats, they were simply staid, substantial pioneers, ignorant of the technical side of the law, but so imbued with an inherent sense of right and justice that they formed as competent a tribunal for their fellowmen as if they had been tutored at the knees of John Marshall.

And there were others of these old associate judges who made excellent judges. The office was abolished in 1851, and with the adoption of the constitution of that year the old associate judge became a thing of the past. He had served his people well and faithfully, and there were not a few who regretted his passing. Such worthy pioneers as Benjamin Whiteman, William Maxwell, James Snoden, Samuel Kyle, David Huston and Daniel Martin will be remembered for their service on the local bench, and the county is glad to honor them. The complete list of associate judges from 1803 until the office was abolished in 1851 follows: Benjamin Whiteman, James Barrett and William Maxwell, 1803; Benjamin Whiteman and James Barrett, 1804-1805; David Huston, Josiah Grover and James Barrett, 1806-1808; David Huston, James Barrett and James Snoden, 1809; David Huston, James Snoden and Samuel Kyle, 1810; John McLain and Samuel Kyle, 1811; John Wilson and Samuel Kyle, 1812; Jacob Haines and Samuel Kyle, 1813-1815; Jacob Haines, Samuel Kyle and David Huston, 1815-1819; John Clark, Samuel Kyle and David Huston, 1819-1833; Simeon Dunn, Samuel Kyle and David Huston, 1833-1843; Simeon Dunn, Samuel Kyle and A. G. Luce, 1843-1846; Simeon Dunn, Daniel Martin and A. G. Luce, 1846-1848; John Fudge, Daniel Martin and A. G. Luce, 1848-1850; John Fudge, Daniel Martin and William Mills, 1850-1851.

Then, there was still another class of men in the early days who dispensed justice without any previous legal training. These men were always known as "squires," the constitution calling them justices of the peace. They

are still a prominent feature of the judicial system of the state, but they no longer hold the importance they did in the early history of the county. It was, and still is, the custom to continue them in office from term to term, and as a result of this custom some of them really, in the course of years, acquired a considerable knowledge of the law. They formerly tried more than half the cases in the average county in Ohio, but their importance is gradually decreasing. As a matter of fact, there are those who are now saying that the justice of peace has outlived his usefulness, and that he ought to go the way of the old associate judges. But the "squire" of the first half of the last century was looked upon as one of the most important men in his township, each township usually having at least two, and some townships as many as four. His passing is one of the signs of the times.

#### LEADING LAWYERS OF THE PAST GENERATION.

As has been stated, it is impossible to rank the lawyers of the county on the basis of their respective merits. Some of the best known were not the best; on the other hand, there have been some who should rank at the head of the list, who did not attain the local fame which fell to the lot of inferior practitioners. Without mentioning any of the living lawyers, some of whom will rank with the best the county has ever produced, there seems to be a consensus of opinion that the following lawyers were among the best of those who have come and gone: Moses Barlow, James J. Winans, John Little, Roswell F. Howard, Aaron Harlan, Charles Darlington, Charles L. Spencer and Edmund H. Munger.

#### ADMISSION OF EARLY LAWYERS TO THE BAR OF GREENE COUNTY.

Hidden away in the recesses of the attic of the court house in Xenia are several boxes of papers which were carefully preserved and arranged by the late George F. Robinson, the indefatigable historian of the county. Among these many papers the present historian found a neat little bundle of papers containing the documents concerned with the admission to the local bar of a number of Greene county's earliest lawyers. It is fair to presume that Robinson put in the little package all of these particular records that he could find. The earliest noted was that of William Alexander, admitted in 1817. The latest was that of Perry Hawes, who was admitted in 1862. The list totals twenty-one lawyers (not all, of course) who were admitted to the local bar during the years from 1817 to 1862.

Unfortunately, the paper actually admitting Alexander to the bar in 1817 is missing, but there are two certificates concerning him which are interesting. It was the custom in those days for the applicant to be examined by three or more, usually three but sometimes five, members of the bar. Their certifi-

cate was then turned over to the court with their recommendation, whereupon the judge formally admitted the applicant to the bar.

The two documents pertaining to William Alexander are as follows:

State of Ohio, Greene County.

Personally appeared before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the peace in the county aforesaid and made oath that he the deponent actually does reside in the State of Ohio and is a citizen thereof, Sworn and Subscribed before me at Xenia this 15th July 1817.

Joseph Hamill, Justice of the peace.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER.

I certify that William Alexander is of good moral character and that he has regularly and attentively studied law, and that I believe him to be a person of sufficient legal ability to discharge the duties of an attorney-at-law.

The Hon. Judge of the Sup. Court, July 2, 1817.

JOSHUA COLLETT.

It is presumed that Alexander had to pass some sort of an examination following the presentation of these certificates to the court, the lawyers to do the examining being appointed by the court. Their recommendation for his admission is not filed with the other certificates, but it is certain that he was admitted at this time. A good example of the recommendation made by the examining lawyers is that of James D. Liggett and William E. Morris, a verbatim copy of which follows:

To the Hon. the Supreme Court of the State of Ohio, Within and for Greene County, Ohio.

The undersigned committee appointed to examine James D. Liggett & William E. Morris, applicants for admission to practice as attorneys, respectfully report that, after an examination of said applicants we find, that, they are in possession of sufficient legal knowledge & ability to discharge the duties of attorneys & Counsellors at Law, & Solicitor in Chancery—& being thus well qualified we recommend their admission to the Bar, according to Law, to practice as attorneys & Counsellors at law, etc. in the Courts of the State of Ohio. June 17, 1847.

J. MILTON WILLIAMS

A. HARLAN

R. F. HOWARD

The twenty-one lawyers whose bar papers have been preserved are the following: William Alexander, 1817; Thomas Coke Wright, 1826; Cornelius Clarke, 1828; Henry Avery, 1831; Mark Anthony Sayre, 1834; Hiram Jones, 1837; Nathan Starbuck, 1838; Robert S. Reynolds, 1839; John B. McClymon, 1840; Charles T. Traugh, 1842; John H. Watson, 1844; William E. Morris, 1847; James D. Liggett, 1847; John Coates, 1847; George H. Frey, 1847; John F. Loyd, 1848; L. H. Culver, 1855; Darius Dislain, 1857; John L. Oram, 1860; Perry Hawes, 1862.

The names of several of these lawyers are not familiar in the court records of the county, most of them apparently having been identified with the county only a few years. It is possible, of course, that some of them were not even resident lawyers of Greene county, but the fact that they applied to the local bar for admission indicates that they intended to practice in this county.

Among the several lawyers whose names appear on these old documents as attesting to the moral character of the applicants, or as examining lawyers, are the following: A. Harlan, William Ellsberry, A. S. Buck, R. F. Howard, M. Barlow, George Spence, William R. Sherwin, Joshua Collet and J. M. Williams. The names of R. F. Howard, Moses Barlow and Aaron Harlan appear the most frequently, a fact which indicates that they must have been the leading lawyers of the county at this time.

#### THE TAXING OF LAWYERS.

It is not generally known that at one time in the history of the county all the lawyers were placed on the tax duplicate at so much per head, just the same as dogs. They were taxed from one to three dollars each, the law providing that they should be assessed according to their annual income; hence the record shows three-dollar lawyers and one-dollar lawyers. While the provision for placing the lawyer on the tax list was provided by a state statute, it required an order from the county commissioners to make it effective in the various counties of the state. The Greene county lawyer found his way into the tax duplicate as a result of the following order, dated June 11, 1830:

The commissioners and auditor proceeded to estimate the annual income of the practicing lawyers and physicians, and to charge a tax upon each; which tax is attached to their respective names on the lists returned by the assessor to the auditor.

As far as is known this law was in force until the constitution of 1851 became operative, but the list of lawyers taxed in 1831 is the only one which has been found among the county records. This list included John Alexander, William Ellsberry, Aaron Harlan, Thomas Coke Wright, Joseph Sexton and Cornelius Clark.

#### JUDICIAL SYSTEM PRIOR TO 1851.

The first judicial system of the state of Ohio was provided for by the legislative act of April 15, 1803, this act being based upon the constitution which had been adopted the previous year. With such modifications as the General Assembly was privileged to make, the system then put into operation continued in use until 1851, when the whole system was changed by the new constitution of that year.

During these years the state was divided into a number of judicial circuits, over each of which presided a so-called president judge elected by the Legislature. These districts, composed of a number of counties as they were, were constantly changing due to the annual addition of new counties to the rapidly growing state. Other districts had to be added from time to time, but, in the main, little change was made in the judiciary prior to 1851. Each county, in turn, was allowed to have three judges of its own, at first elected by the Legislature, however, and these local judges, could, in the

absence of the president judge, hold court. The associates were not required to have any knowledge of law; it was the exception if they had. Some wise man has said that the reason why Justice was represented as a blind-folded woman was because she feared to look upon the men who were to dispense the justice she was supposed to typify. Be that as it may, the associate judges of Greene county between 1803 and 1851 really served their constituents as faithfully and efficiently as if they had been skilled in the law. After all, if twelve men can determine the merits of a case, whether it be the value of a dog or a human life, it is not too much to assume that the untrained judges of the olden days were competent to sit upon any and all cases which might come before them.

#### THE FIRST COURT OF GREENE COUNTY.

The history of the early courts of the county may be traced in the musty volumes which make up the records of their proceedings. There were two courts which came into touch with the pioneers of the county—the supreme court and the court of common pleas. The supreme court, a state court, was what was frequently known as a “traveling” court; that is, its judges and prosecutor moved from one county to another, the length of its sessions in each county being dependent upon the amount of business which might come under its jurisdiction.

The first session of the supreme court in Greene county convened on the fourth Tuesday in October, 1803, the day happening to fall on the 25th of the month. The record of this first session is well preserved and its proceedings, in the bold hand of John Paul, the clerk, are still legible. The court convened at the house of Peter Borders, a pioneer who had settled on Beaver creek, with Samuel Huntington and William Spriggs as judges. William Maxwell, later a well-known printer of Cincinnati and now buried in Greene county, was sheriff, while Arthur St. Clair, Jr., a son of the former governor of the Northwest Territory, was the prosecutor. Paul was the clerk of the court, and the record notes that he gave bond in the sum of two thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties, Benjamin Whiteman, one of the associate judges, and Josiah Grover being his bondsmen.

Then came a grand jury, to-wit: Andrew Read (foreman), James Snodon, Joseph C. Vance [the director of the county seat, and later serving in a similar capacity for Champaign county], William Allen, John Marshall, John McKnight, Samuel Brewster, John McClain, James Snodgrass, John Judy, Robert Lowry, Thomas Frean and Samuel Freeman.

After being sworn in the grand jury was ordered to retire from the court and consider any possible indictments which might be presented to it. But it seems that no one within the extensive limits of the county had transgressed



any of the few statutes of the state, or, if they had, there was no one to report them. At least, the first grand jury of Greene county soon filed into the humble court room (the living room of pioneer Borders) and reported that they had nothing to bring before the court. After admitting Richard L. Thomas to the bar, the "court adjourned until court in course." Thus ended the first session of the supreme court in Greene county.

The statute provided that this court should hold an annual session in each county, and at such times as the court itself might determine. A perusal of the proceedings of this court in the county indicates that it handled only a few cases and most of these were of minor importance. The second session convened on October 3, 1804, and the grand jury completed all of its work in a short time in the morning and was immediately discharged. The record shows that the first case to come before this court was that of the state vs. Archibald Dawden and Robert Reneck, charged with the murder of "Betty George or otherwise Kenawa Tuckaw," the indictment being the work of the second grand jury. The defendants did not elect to stand trial and the court admitted them to bail in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, Simon Kenton being one of Dawden's bondsmen. The case was set for the next annual session of the court, at which session, held on November 11, 1805, the case was venued to Champaign county, the Greene county record stating that the case was to be tried at Springfield, Champaign county, which town, at that time, was the county seat of the newly organized Champaign county. No further reference is made to the case in Greene county, and therefore the Champaign county records would have to be searched to ascertain its final disposition.

The supreme court record of the county up until 1851 is filled with a multitude of petty cases, largely of assault and battery, or minor infractions of the criminal statutes. Here is a typical case: Nimrod Haddox, one of the more prominent old pioneers, seemed to have got into some kind of an altercation which brought him before this tribunal. On being placed on the witness stand and asked whether he was guilty, this doughty pioneer plead "not guilty." And the ancient volume which tells of his indictment goes on with his story. "Therefore," says the record, "let a jury come." It came, it tried him, found him guilty as charged, fined him in the sum of five dollars and costs, and committed him "till performance." It takes a chirographic expert to decipher some of these century-old proceedings, and, once deciphered, it would take a lawyer well versed in ancient legal phraseology to tell exactly what is meant by some of the curious expressions which found their way into the record.

John Paul was not quite equal to the task of getting all of the Latin phrases correctly spelled. One of his records says that the court adjourned

"si no dy." However, Paul evidently improved in his knowledge of Latin, since some of his later records show that the court very properly adjourned "*sine die*." In the main, the supreme court records of the county are well kept, and the student of criminology can here find much valuable material for a thesis on the early depravity of the first settlers of the county. During the first quarter of the century men were frequently arrested for swearing, for betting on the elections, for fighting, for fast driving, and such petty misdemeanors, many of which are passed by in 1917 without an officer of the law even knowing that the law is being violated.

#### THE COMMON PLEAS COURT.

Greene county came into existence the same year the state was admitted to the Union—1803—and the same year saw seven other counties make their initial appearance. The legislative act of April 16, 1803, made it mandatory upon the associate judges of each of the counties to meet on the 10th of the following month and "lay" their respective counties into a "suitable number of townships." For at least a year after Greene county was organized these associate judges performed all the functions of the later county commissioners. The present set of officials known as "county commissioners" were created by an act of the General Assembly, passed on February 14, 1804. In Greene county the first election for these commissioners was held on the first Monday of the following April, but it was not until June 20, 1804, that the associate judges turned over to the commissioners that part of their duties which the statute had placed under their jurisdiction. Hence, it is seen that the first court of common pleas was a far different court from what it later became. In fact, as long as the old judiciary was in existence, that is, up to 1851, the court of common pleas handled some of the business which subsequently was turned over to the county commissioners. As previously stated, the associate judges met on May 10, 1803, to divide the county into townships and at the same time they determined the number of justices of the peace which should be allotted to each township.

An explanation is necessary at this point to show the peculiar status of these associate judges. When acting in the capacity above mentioned, although they were called a "court," yet it is not technically correct to call them a "court of common pleas." It was a court for the transaction of executive business, not in any sense a court for judicial purposes. When they met for such business as was later taken over by the county commissioners it is improper to call their session a meeting of the court of common pleas. However, this dual set of functions, as before noted, came to an end when the county commissioners began their legal existence on June 20, 1804.

The first meeting of the court of common pleas as a judicial body con-

vened at the house of Owen Davis (then occupied by Peter Borders) on August 2, 1803, with Francis Dunleavy as president judge and associate judges, Benjamin Whiteman, William Maxwell and James Barrett. Daniel Symmes was prosecutor; John Paul, clerk; and Nathan Lamme, sheriff. The grand jury was composed of the following men, "tried and true": William J. Stewart (foreman), John Wilson, William Buckles, Abram Van Eaton, James Snodgrass, John Judy, Evan Morgan, Robert Marshall, Alexander C. Armstrong, Joseph C. Vance, Joseph Wilson, John Buckhannon, Martin Mendenhall and Harry Martin. These were the men who had charge of the first court in Greene county, all of them being residents of the county except the president judge and the prosecutor.

One hundred and fifteen years have elapsed since this first court convened in Greene county. Could the men who foregathered in the one small room in the Davis cabin on that memorable day in August, 1803, drive into Xenia in an automobile in the spring of 1818, it would be hard to convince them that they were on the same planet where they inaugurated a government for a civil county more than a hundred years ago. Scarcely a thing they might see would be familiar to their eyes, and scarcely a sound would be familiar to their ears. And the score of officials? What did they look like? How were they dressed? What an interesting photograph they would have made, but that was long before the day even of the daguerreotype. But we can conjure up a picture, which will be fairly life-like. They were sober-faced men, these sturdy forefathers. Some would have been dressed in homespun, some in skins; some with moccasins, some with home-made boots, some with no footgear at all; some with well-oiled queues and some with close-cropped hair; some with curious felt hats, or hand-made straw hats, or none at all; some with a long hunting shirt, fringed and bedecked, and with leather breeches; but not a man with the long trousers as we now know this nether garment—but every man, no matter how dressed, was deeply intent upon the performance of such duties as the law assigned him.

This first court performed but little business. After the grand jury received its instructions from the judge, it retired to the little log cabin which was near the Davis house, mention of which is made in the chapter on the court houses of the county, and there proceeded to hear the testimony of some seventeen witnesses. The strange thing about the first court day in Greene county was that all of these witnesses, and all the indictments which were subsequently returned, arose from a series of fistic encounters which were staged around this primitive court house after court convened on this particular morning in August, 1803.

To read between the lines, it would seem that the fact that the first session of the Greene county court was to be held on this day had been

widely advertised throughout the county. At least, on the appointed day, there was a large crowd on hand, and the presence of the tavern of Borders, with its ample supplies of whiskey, fully accounts for the numerous personal combats which soon were in action. Consequently, after the grand jury was in session, it began to get cases right from the yard immediately surrounding the cabin in which they were holding their deliberations. In all, no fewer than seventeen witnesses were called, with a resulting total of nine bills of indictment for such misdemeanors as affrays, assaults, batteries, etc. The reading of the record of the day's proceedings shows that it must have indeed been a red-letter day in the history of the infant county.

In addition to the assessing of a number of fines against the belligerent pioneers, the court found time to do a few other things. On the first day of the session it appointed James Galloway, Jr., as the first surveyor of the county, a position which he held until 1816. On the second day, August 3, the court appointed Joseph C. Vance director of the county, and authorized him to survey the county seat and lay it off into lots preparatory to placing them on sale.

These two days, August 2 and 3, 1803, were taken up with the session of the common pleas court sitting as a judicial body. The statute of April 16, 1803, made it mandatory on the associate judges to hold a court for the transaction of "county business" on the day following the adjournment of the court as a judicial body. In accordance with this provision, the associate judges convened on Thursday morning (August 4, 1803) for the transaction of such so-called county business as might properly come before them. They had little to do. First, they appointed James Galloway, Sr., treasurer of the county. They then granted three licenses for the keeping of taverns. One of these tavern licenses was issued to Peter Borders, in whose house the court was sitting, the court room presumably being the bar room. The other two licenses were issued to Griffith Foos and Archibald Lowry, both of whom were living in the village of Springfield. Borders paid four dollars for his permit, while the other two were compelled to pay twice as much, a fact which seems to indicate that Springfield was the more important trading center of the county at this time.

The act establishing the county had provided that the court of common pleas, sitting as a judicial body, should convene on the first Tuesdays in April, August and December. The August session was the first in Greene county, since the first Tuesday in April had passed before the enactment of the law. When the time for the second session of the court arrived there was again very little business to come before it; in fact, for several years the court found comparatively few cases coming before it for hearing. This second session indicted and found guilty one Thomas Davis, a justice of the

peace, for "misconduct in office"; just what the said misconduct was, the record failed to state. The state demanded one dollar of him for his misconduct and furthermore ordered him to "stand committed until performed." This second session also witnessed the first civil case in the county, an action brought by one Wallingford against one Vandolah for slander. The defendant had called the plaintiff a liar, or at least, so Wallingford alleged. A jury heard the evidence, decided that Vandolah had so denominated the plaintiff, and ordered the guilty wretch to pay the maligned plaintiff damages in the amount of twenty-five cents. Thus was justice dealt out in those early days.

#### SOME COURT CASES OF GREENE COUNTY.

There was a time in Greene county when men were imprisoned for debt, although to the present generation it is a matter of wonder how a man could be expected to meet an obligation while languishing in jail. The early records also tell of whipping as a punishment, and Greene county has few cases of this kind on record. Swearing and gaming were frequent causes which found their way into court, and although both misdemeanors are still recognized as such, yet it has been many a year since the last man was arrested for swearing. But in the days of our forefathers they never arrested a man for spitting on the sidewalk, or exposing to dust the food offered for sale in his grocery, or allowing his pigs to run loose in the streets, or whipping his horse, or putting water in his milk. In this generation a different view of the purpose of laws is held. Formerly they were merely to punish the unfortunate victim, with no idea of trying to make the punishment fit the crime, and certainly with no idea of attempting to help the man to a better view of life. Such a thing as kindness to a prisoner was not to be thought of under the regime of the judges of a hundred years ago; they were criminals before the bar, and criminals they must remain. Justice tempered with mercy is a thing of the last half century. We are attempting now to adjust our laws to man in such a way that he is made a better man for having come in contact with them, instead of sending him headlong into a criminal life from which there is hardly any possibility of escape. Hence, we have abolished imprisonment for debt; we have abolished public whipping; we are gradually abolishing capital punishment; we are no longer treating the first infraction of a law with the severity we mete out to a confirmed violator.

The first jails of Ohio were invariably fitted out with what was called a debtor's room. Some debtors were confined to the room all the time; others were allowed the liberty of the jail grounds; still others were allowed the privilege of wandering considerable distance from the jail—over the county seat itself in some instances. For, be it known, there was a so-called

"prison bounds," a term long since dropped from the statutes of Ohio. The General Assembly of Ohio, with the act of January 12, 1805, entitled "An act regulating prison bounds," provided that every person imprisoned for debt should be permitted the privilege of what were designated as prison bounds. These "bounds" were limited to an area defined by a radius of not more than four hundred yards surrounding the jail. Any prisoner to have the privilege of the bounds had to give a proper bond before he could exercise the freedom of the bounds. At no time and under no circumstances was the debtor to go beyond the bounds, and, in case he did, his bond was forfeited and he was committed to close confinement.

This act, with some few modifications, continued on the statute books until abolished with the act of March 19, 1833. In 1833 the law was changed to make the prison bounds co-extensive with the limits of the county in which the prisoner lived. There were many arrests and convictions in the early history of Greene county for debt. Some had friends to come to their rescue after they had been convicted, and thereby escaped the fateful room. Others were found to have sufficient property to liquidate the debt, but in case the court found that the debtor had nothing, or not enough to satisfy the judgment, he was brought before the commissioner of insolvents (there was such an official in the early history of the county) and discharged. In any case the unfortunate man had to lay in jail a while, pending the disposition of his case. By the thirties cases of this sort were infrequent and the General Assembly finally abolished imprisonment for debt with the act of March 19, 1838.

#### THE PROBATE COURT.

There was no separate probate court under the first constitution of Ohio, all probate matters coming under the jurisdiction of the common pleas court. The office of probate judge as now constituted was created by the constitution of 1851 (Art. IV, Sec. 7), the section in question providing that "There shall be established in each county, a Probate Court, which shall be a court of record, open at all times, and holden by one judge, elected by the voters of the county, who shall hold his office of three years, and shall receive such compensation, payable out of the county treasurer, or by fees, or both, as shall be provided by law."

Subsequent constitutional changes and statutory enactments have changed the tenure, defined the jurisdiction of the court and made it an efficient working arm of the judiciary of the state. The jurisdiction of the court extends to all probate and testamentary matters, the appointment of administrators and guardians, the settlement of the accounts of executors, administrators, and guardians, the issuing of marriage licenses, the sale of

land by executors, administrators, and guardians, and "such other jurisdiction as may be provided by law." The court also has cognizance of all matters relating to the care and protection of children. In effect, therefore, the court is a juvenile court. It also appoints the board of visitors; has general charge of the administration of the mothers' pension act, and determines commitments to the insane asylum, children's home, poor farm, etc.

The constitution does not specify any qualifications for the office of probate judge, and there has been no statutory legislation touching this important point. As far as the law is concerned, the judge is not required to read and write. He may have never opened a law book of any kind before entering the office; in fact, there have been judges of probate of this kind in Greene county in the past. Within recent years, however, there has been a demand for probate judges with previous legal training.

James W. Harper, the first probate judge of the county, and an incumbent of the office longer than any other judge, was born in Rockbridge county, Virginia, August 4, 1809. He came to Ohio and located in Greene county with his widowed mother and other children of the family in 1834. He followed the trade of cooper in the county for sixteen years after locating here. He was married on March 29, 1839, to Jane Shields and they became the parents of three children, John, Lavina and William. He served as justice of the peace, and in 1841 became county recorder for a three-year term. He was the first probate judge elected for Greene county after the adoption of the constitution of 1851, and served continuously until 1861. He was again elected to the same office in the fall of 1867 and was re-elected from term to term, serving until 1885, thus being in the office for a total of twenty-eight years. He died on Christmas Day, 1893, and is buried at Xenia.

Charles W. Dewey, the second probate judge of the county, serving from 1861 to 1864, was a practicing lawyer of the county for several years. Thornton Marshall, judge from 1864 to 1867, was not a lawyer. J. Harvey Cooper, who served two terms beginning in 1885, was a drygoods merchant at Xenia when he was elected to the office. James M. Stewart, who followed Cooper in 1891 for two terms, had been a dry-goods merchant at Yellow Springs, and had served as deputy under Cooper for six years. Since 1897 the office has been filled with lawyers. The list of probate judges follow: James W. Harper, 1852-1861; Charles Dewey, 1861-1864; Thornton Marshall, 1864-1867; James W. Harper, 1867-1885; J. Harvey Cooper, 1885-1891; James M. Stewart, 1891-1897; Joseph N. Dean, 1897-1906; Marcus Shoup, 1906-1909; Charles F. Howard, 1909-1917, and J. Carl Marshall, 1917-1921.

## THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GREENE COUNTY.

The present generation of lawyers of Greene county have little knowledge concerning a special Greene county court which flourished more than forty years ago. In the early part of the '70s the regular common pleas court, which handled all of the business of the county, became so clogged with cases that it was deemed advisable to ask the General Assembly of the state to create a special court to relieve the congested condition. The Legislature was appealed to for relief, a bill for a special court was prepared, and on February 20, 1871, an act was passed creating what was called "The Superior Court of Greene County" (Laws of Ohio, Vol. 68, pp. 22-27).

This court was given jurisdiction over original civil causes but was not to handle any criminal cases. It was to try no bastardy cases, divorce suits, insolvent debtors or hear appeals from the justice of peace courts. It was to hold regular sessions every month in the year except during July and August: The judge was to receive one thousand dollars from the county and one thousand five hundred dollars from the state. He was to be elected for a term of three years, the first election to be held on the first Monday of April, 1871, and succeeding elections at the time of the regular elections for county officials.

The first judge of the court was Joseph A. Sexton, and, by re-election, he served throughout the existence of the court. By 1875 it was felt that the regular common pleas court could handle all of the court business of the county, and, as a result of this condition, the General Assembly with the act of March 27, 1875 (Laws of Ohio, Vol. 72, pp. 89-90), provided for its dissolution, the court to close its business on May 1, 1875. All cases then pending were to be turned over to the regular common pleas court for final disposition. There has been no special court in the county since 1875, the common pleas court having been able to handle all of the court business of the county.

## COMMON PLEAS JUDGES.

Greene county did not have a resident common pleas judge until 1864. From 1851 up to that time the judges who presided over the district to which Greene county was attached were residents of other counties in the district. James J. Winans, the first resident judge of the county, was appointed to the bench in February, 1864, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge William White. Judge Winans was elected in the fall of the same year to fill the unexpired term of Judge White, and was re-elected in the fall of 1866 for the regular five-year term. He resigned in the fall of 1868 to make the race for Congress and was elected, serving from March 4, 1869, to March 4, 1871.



Upon the resignation of Judge Winans in the fall of 1868, Edmund H. Munger was appointed to serve until the election a short time later in the same fall. He was elected to fill out the unexpired term of Judge Winans and served until February 9, 1872. He was defeated for renomination by James M. Smith, of Lebanon. From 1872 to 1874 Greene county was without a resident common pleas judge, Leroy Pope, of Wilmington, and James M. Smith being the judges of the local court during this short period. On February 9, 1874, Greene county saw its third resident common pleas judge elevated to the bench in the person of Judge Moses Barlow, and since that year the county has always had a resident judge of the court.

Judge Barlow was on the bench until February 9, 1879, being followed on the latter date by Judge James E. Hawes for two terms. Judge Horace L. Smith assumed the bench on February 9, 1889, for two terms, retiring in favor of Judge Thomas E. Scroggy on February 9, 1899. Judge Scroggy served one full term and was re-elected for a second term, but resigned in 1904 to make the race for Congress. He was elected and served one term. Judge Charles H. Kyle was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation and by subsequent elections has filled the office since that year.

Of these several judges of the county there is only one former judge now living. Horace L. Smith, judge from 1889 to 1899, is still in the active practice of law in Xenia. The last one of the others to die was Edmund H. Munger, whose death occurred on March 21, 1918. Thomas E. Scroggy died on March 6, 1915.

#### PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS OF THE COUNTY.

Greene county has had a local prosecuting attorney since 1808. The first two prosecutors connected with the local court were Daniel Symmes, 1803-1804, and Arthur St. Clair, Jr., 1804-1808, neither of whom were residents of the county. Beginning with John Alexander in 1808 there has always been a local attorney elected to the office and among the twenty-four men who have held the position there have been some of the best lawyers of the county. Two of them, John Alexander and John Little, served in the halls of Congress; others became common pleas judges; one, Charles C. Shearer, became a member of the circuit court of appeals of the state. The full list follow: Daniel Symmes, 1803-04; Arthur St. Clair, 1804-08; John Alexander, 1808-14; William Ellsberry, 1814-16; Joshua Collett, 1816-18; John Alexander, 1818-32; Cornelius Clark, 1832-36; William Ellsberry, 1836-38; R. C. Poland, 1838-42; R. F. Howard, 1842-44; J. G. Gest, 1844-51; M. D. Gatch, 1851-55; John W. Lowe, 1855-56; J. A. Sexton, 1856-60; E. H. Munger, 1860-66; John Little, 1866-69; James E. Hawes, 1869-73; Charles C. Shearer, 1873-77; Hugh McQuiston, 1877-79; T. L. McGruler,

1879-81; C. L. Spencer, 1881-83; Joseph N. Dean, 1883-89; W. F. Trader, 1889-95; Marcus Shoup, 1895-1901; Charles F. Howard, 1901-04; William F. Orr, 1907-11; Frank L. Johnson, 1911-17, and Harry D. Smith, 1917-19.

#### SOME LAWYERS OF A PAST GENERATION.

During the one hundred and fifteen years of the county's history there have appeared at least one hundred and twenty lawyers in the county. A large number of these remained in the county only a short time, while many more were here for only a few years. Some of those who remained in the county a number of years left very little impress on the life of the community, and but little is known of them. It is impossible to give much definite information concerning a great majority of the men who have practiced before the local bar, but there are a few who are briefly noticed in the succeeding paragraphs. There may be others equally deserving of being mentioned, but no data was available to make a sketch of them. In the biographical volume will be found interesting sketches of a majority of the lawyers of today, as well as of several who are deceased. Such prominent lawyers as Charles L. Spencer and Edmund H. Munger are represented in the biographical volume, while a number of others may also be found there. In the following paragraphs may be found short sketches of several of the lawyers who are not elsewhere represented.

Francis Dunlavy, although not a resident of Greene county, yet was the first common pleas judge to preside over the court in the county. Most of his career in Ohio was spent in the neighboring county of Warren. He was born near Winchester, Virginia, December 31, 1771, and died at Lebanon, Ohio, October, 1839. He was an interesting character in many ways. Serving in the Revolution from 1776 to 1779, he later taught school a while, read law, was admitted to the bar before 1800, and settled in Warren county, Ohio, at the opening of the nineteenth century, making that county his home until his death. He was twice a member of the Legislature of the old Northwest Territory, a member of the first constitutional convention of the state, and was one of the first three common pleas judges elected by the General Assembly in 1803. He served in this capacity for fourteen years, concluding his service on the bench in 1817. During these years he presided over the circuit which included Greene county, and according to all accounts he made a very satisfactory judge.

There have been three lawyers bearing the name of Alexander in Greene county—John Alexander, the first lawyer in Xenia, his son, William, and his grandson, William J. The first Alexander, John by name, was born in South Carolina in 1777, and was a lawyer of several years' experience when he located in Xenia in 1803. He had been married some years before com-

ing to Ohio, having first located in Butler county upon coming into the state. In that county he had taught school as well as practiced law, but when he heard of the new county of Greene being organized he immediately decided to cast his lot with the infant county. Accordingly the year 1803 found him in Xenia, being here in fact before the court had been removed from the log cabin of Davis on Beaver creek. He became prosecuting attorney in 1808 and served as such until 1813, resigning the office to take a seat in Congress to which he had been elected in the fall of 1812. He served two terms in Congress, from March 4, 1813, to March 4, 1817, the first congressman to be elected from Greene county. As soon as he returned from Congress he again became the prosecuting attorney of the county and filled the office term after term until he refused to hold it any longer. He concluded his last term in the office in 1832. During this long period in the prosecutor's office he was elected to the state Senate and served there one term, 1822-24, but immediately took up the duties of prosecutor upon the expiration of his term in the senate. He died in Xenia in 1848.

William Alexander, a son of John, was born in South Carolina. The local court records indicate that he was admitted to the Greene county bar in 1817. Little is known of his career as a lawyer.

William J. Alexander, a son of William, was born in Spring Valley township, Greene county, Ohio, June 10, 1827. He worked on the farm until 1857, when he began the study of law at home under the tutelage of C. W. Dewey, of Xenia. He was examined by Judge Sexton, Benoni Nesbit and John Little for admission to the bar in 1860. In 1877 he was admitted to practice in the United States courts after an examination by R. F. Howard, E. H. Munger and John Little. He eventually became one of the large land owners of Spring Valley township, owning at the time of his death more than six hundred acres of land. He was married on February 28, 1850, to Elizabeth Weller, and they were the parents of two sons, Perry A. and Charles F. Mr. Alexander died on April 18, 1897.

James J. Winans, member of the Legislature, common pleas judge, and member of Congress, was born in Maysville, Kentucky, June 7, 1818. He was a son of Mathias Winans, one of the early physicians of Greene county, and the father of James Winans, who also became a lawyer. He studied law in the office of Huston & Simpson in Lexington, Kentucky, and was admitted to the bar about 1840, shortly after he had reached his majority. Soon after his admission to the bar he removed to Jamestown, this county, where his father was practicing medicine, and began the practice of his profession. Evidently there was not much legal business in the village, and he decided to go to Indiana to locate permanently. He removed to Noblesville,

the county seat of Hamilton county, Indiana, in the spring of 1842, but February, 1843, saw him again back in Jamestown. Two years later he was elected clerk of the court of common pleas and he served in this capacity until 1851. He then devoted all of his time to his law practice until he was elected to the state Senate in 1858 for one term. In January, 1863, he took his seat in the lower house of the General Assembly, but resigned in February, 1864, to accept an appointment as common pleas judge to fill out the unexpired term of Judge William White who had resigned to accept an appointment as a member of the supreme court of Ohio. In the fall of 1866, Judge Winans was elected for the regular term, but he resigned in 1868 to make the race for Congress. He was elected and served from March 4, 1869 to March 4, 1871. He then returned to Xenia and practiced law until his death on April 28, 1879. He was married on September 26, 1843, to Caroline E. Morris. They were the parents of six children, all of whom, as well as his wife, were living at the time of his death in 1879.

William Ellsberry, who was one of the first lawyers in Xenia, was identified with the history of the county from 1811 until his death, March 23, 1863. Born in 1783, he came to Xenia in 1811, and two years later was serving as prosecuting attorney. The records show that he filled this office from 1813 to 1816 and again from 1836 to 1838. He was in the state Senate from 1830 to 1834. This sums up his official career, but that was only a very small part of his life in Xenia. He was one of those active citizens who are interested in everything about them; such a man as was needed in the early history of any county. A "beautiful and perfect portrait of their venerable friend and legal brother," painted in the '50s by the artist McClurg on the order of some of Ellsberry's brothers at the bar to this day "adorns the court room where he displayed his legal learning and wit, and where in after years it will speak of one who first in the county and place unfolded the mysteries and intricacies of the legal profession. That genial, life-like portrait will be a speaking memorial of pioneer days, and exert, we trust, a silent influence in mellowing the asperities coincident with the conflicts of litigation," to quote from a newspaper of that period.

Roswell F. Howard, one of the leaders of the Greene county bar for half a century, was born in Hamilton, Ohio, July 20, 1813. He received a collegiate education at Miami University and at Augusta College, Augusta, Kentucky. He then entered Cincinnati Law School and was graduated from that institution in 1837. He at once located in Xenia, where he made his home until his death, June 28, 1892. He was married in 1849 to Margaret Steele, of Xenia, and to this marriage were born seven children, two of whom are living, William S., an attorney of Xenia, and Charles F., also a lawyer of Xenia, and now president of the Peoples Building and Savings

Company. In 1873 the wife of Mr. Howard died and in 1876 he married Mary Pollock. Mr. Howard applied himself assiduously to the practice of his chosen profession from the day he located in Xenia in 1837, and eventually became recognized as one of the ablest attorneys of this section of the state. He served as prosecuting attorney, 1842-1844; as a member of the General Assembly in 1848 and again from 1866 to 1870; as mayor of Xenia; and as a member of the county board of school examiners for twenty years.

Aaron Harlan, one of the most famous of the early lawyers of Greene county, a member of the state Legislature, a member of the constitutional convention of 1850, a member of Congress, and an orator of the first rank, was born in Warren county, Ohio, September 8, 1802. He was admitted to the bar in 1825 and at once located in Xenia where he soon rose to the front rank of the local bar. His public career started with his election to the lower house of the General Assembly in 1831, where he served one term. In 1838 he became a member of the state Senate and served one term; he returned to the Senate in 1849, but resigned to make the race for delegate to the constitutional convention of 1850. He served in the convention with signal ability, and it was probably due to his work in that body that his district elected him to Congress in the fall of 1852. He served three terms in Congress, from March 4, 1853, to March 4, 1859. This concluded his public career, although he made the race for Congress in 1860. He was defeated because he was too outspoken in his denunciation of the action of the Southern states in threatening to secede. He was an uncompromising Republican and did not hesitate to flay those who disagreed with him in political matters. He removed to San Francisco a short time before his death, dying in that city on January 18, 1868.

Thomas E. Scroggy, common pleas judge and member of Congress, was connected with the life of Xenia for nearly half a century. Born in Harveysburg, Warren county, Ohio, March 18, 1843, he grew to manhood in that county, and at the opening of the Civil War enlisted and served throughout the war. Immediately after being mustered out in 1865 he came to Xenia and for a time was in the millinery business, later buying a grocery store. He had little education, but was possessed of considerable native ability. He eventually became a justice of the peace and then became interested in the legal profession. He read law, was admitted to the local bar and in the fall of 1898 was elected common pleas judge. He served by re-election until 1904 when he resigned to become a candidate for Congress. He was elected and served one term. After retiring from Congress he went to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he was living at the time of his death on March 6, 1915.

Benoni Nesbit was one of the interesting figures of Xenia for sixty

years, 1837-1897. Born on October 18, 1814, he was clerking in a store in Springfield, Ohio, at the age of twenty-three. He seems to have been the owner of a store there in 1837, at least, in that year he removed to Xenia with a store and continued in the mercantile business in the latter place until 1843. For some reason he decided to become a lawyer, and to this end he disposed of his store in 1843 and began the study of law with R. F. Howard. He was admitted to the bar two years later and from that time until his death in Xenia, April 11, 1897, he was connected with the life of this city.

Charles C. Shearer, the oldest practicing attorney in Xenia, was born in this city on October 8, 1840, the eldest son of John and Mary E. Shearer. He enlisted for service in the Civil War, but was discharged for physical reasons and was thus unable to serve his country as he had so ardently desired. He began the study of law in 1864 and was admitted to the local bar in 1866. He has now been in continuous practice for more than half a century, a record which is not equalled by many practitioners in the state. He became associated in the practice with John Little in 1872 and this partnership continued until February 9, 1887, when he took his seat as a member of the circuit court of appeals of Ohio, serving on the bench until February 9, 1899. He had previously served as city clerk of Xenia from 1869 to 1873, and as prosecuting attorney from 1873 to 1877. In July, 1871, he became United States commissioner, a position which he filled for several years.

#### LAWYERS OF GREENE COUNTY, 1803-1918.

The historian has compiled a list of one hundred and twenty lawyers who have been identified with the county for varying periods of time. There have probably been others in the county, but they remained such a short time that they left no record of their presence. A volume might easily be written about these followers of Blackstone. In this list may be seen the name of Coates Kinney, the poet, who although admitted to the local bar, yet never seems to have practiced very much. Certainly, future generations will not remember him as a lawyer. John W. Lowe came to the town from Dayton in 1855 and at the opening of the Civil War raised and became the captain of the first company that went to the front from this county. He was shortly after made the colonel of his regiment and was killed at the battle of Carnifax Ferry on September 18, 1861, the first field officer of Ohio to be killed on the field of battle. Forest W. Dunkle and Charles L. Darlington are now in the National Army, the former as lieutenant and the latter as captain. Daniel G. Younkin was captain of the local company that went to the Mexican border in 1916, being compelled to resign his commission because of ill health. The list of

lawyers for the past one hundred and fifteen years is given alphabetically, those italicized now being residents of the county:

Alexander, John	<i>Harbine, John T.</i>	Poland, R. C.
Alexander, William	Harlan, Aaron	Prescott, John S.
Alexander, William J.	<i>Hartley, Mansel J.</i>	Reynolds, Robert S.
Anderson, Warren	Hawes, James E.	Ross, Phineas
Anthony, C.	Hawes, Perry	Rumpert, ———
<i>Armstrong, Harry C.</i>	Hood, Robert	Sabin, Horace
Avery, Henry	Howard, Roswell F.	Sayre, Mark A.
Barlow, Moses	<i>Howard, Charles F.</i>	Schenck, Robert C.
<i>Broadstone, Michael A.</i>	<i>Howard, William S.</i>	Schickley, Benjamin F.
Browder, Dora	<i>Johnson, Frank L.</i>	Schneibly, Peter R.
Browder, Thomas P.	Jones, Hiram	Scroggy, Thomas E.
Buck, Abner S.	Kinney, Coates	Sexton, Joseph A.
Carey, Hugh	<i>Kyle, Charles H.</i>	Shaffer, Frank N.
Cheney, Charles	<i>Kyle, James P.</i>	Shearer, A. E.
Clark, Cornelius	Lehman, Lewis J.	<i>Shearer, Charles C.</i>
Clemens, Gasper D.	Liggett, James D.	Sherwin, William L.
Coats, John	<i>LeSourd, Harry S.</i>	<i>Shoup, Marcus</i>
Collett, Joshua	<i>Little, George</i>	<i>Smith, E. D.</i>
Cook, J. A.	Little, John	<i>Smith, Harry D.</i>
Culver, L. H.	Lowe, John W.	<i>Smith, Horace L.</i>
Cunningham, Frank	Loyd, John F.	<i>Snodgrass, Milo B.</i>
Dakins, S. W.	<i>Marshall, L. T.</i>	Spencer, Charles L.
Darlington, Charles	Marshall, William G.	Starbuck, Nathan
<i>Darlington, Charles L.</i>	<i>Marshall, J. Carl</i>	Stevens, J. M.
<i>Dean, Frank</i>	<i>Maxwell, Campbell L.</i>	Stewart, J. M.
Dean, Joseph N.	Milburn, J. M.	Taylor, Jesse
Dewey, Charles W.	<i>Miller, W. L.</i>	Thomas, Richard J.
Dislain, Darius	Morris, William E.	<i>Trader, Wilbur F.</i>
Douglass, Robert W.	Munger, Edmund H.	Traugh, Charles T.
<i>Dunkle, Forest W.</i>	Munger, John	Walsh, John
Ellsberry, Benjamin	McClymon, John B.	Watson, John
Ellsberry, William	McGruder, T. L.	<i>Whitmer, Charles W.</i>
Foley, John	McQuiston, Hugh	Williams, John M.
Frey, George H.	Nesbit, Benoni	<i>Williamson, J. Kenneth</i>
Galloway, Albert	Oram, John L.	Wilson, A. G.
Gatch, Moses D.	Orr, William F.	Winans, James J.
Gest, Joseph G.	Partington, Richard	Winans, James
<i>Gowdy, Robert L.</i>	<i>Paxson, W. A.</i>	Wright, Thomas Coke
Hamilton, J. W.	Perkins, C. S.	<i>Younkin, Daniel G.</i>

THE GREENE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY.

The Greene county law library is one of the best-equipped and most complete that can be found in any county seat of its size in southern Ohio and this fact should be a source of pride not only to the members of the law library association and the local bar, but also to the county as well. This library, which represents twenty-four years of effort on the part of the law

library association, is located on the second floor of the court house where it occupies a large, exquisitely furnished and well-appointed room extending along the north side of the corridor.

The law library resulted directly from the organization of the Greene County Law Library Association at a meeting of the Greene county bar in the common pleas court room in the old court house on October 26, 1894. At this first meeting for this purpose Judge H. L. Smith was elected chairman and Frank N. Shaffer secretary. The chairman appointed a committee of three to draft rules and regulations for the association. Soon after at another meeting of the bar the rules were submitted and adopted. The association was to be known as the Greene County Law Library Association, of which members of the local bar could become members by paying the initiation fee of ten dollars and five-dollar annual dues. The library is a half-public, half-private institution, because the county allows it a small annual subsidy, and whenever a member of the association dies, his share in the institution automatically becomes the property of the county.

The charter members of the association were the following: Wilbur F. Trader, E. H. Munger, Marcus Shoup, F. N. Shaffer, Thomas E. Scroggy, M. J. Hartley, H. L. Smith, R. W. Douglass, Horace Sabin, Charles Darlington, C. L. Maxwell, C. L. Spencer, John Little, R. L. Gowdy, Milo R. Snodgrass, P. R. Schnebley, Charles H. Kyle, F. P. Cunningham, T. L. McGruder, J. E. Hawes and H. C. Armstrong. By the constitution, a president, a vice-president, a secretary-treasurer and five trustees were to be elected by the association. The first officers were the following: E. H. Munger, president; Charles Darlington, vice-president; Frank N. Shaffer, secretary-treasurer, and H. L. Smith, E. H. Munger, Charles Darlington, M. J. Hartley, T. E. Scroggy, trustees. Officers are elected annually. The present officers of the association are the following: Charles H. Kyle, president; Wilbur F. Trader, secretary-treasurer; W. L. Miller, librarian; M. J. Hartley, Judge Charles H. Kyle, H. D. Smith, Michael A. Broadstone and Charles L. Darlington, trustees. The membership of the association now numbers about eighteen.

One of the first actions taken after the association's organization was the authorization of a debt of one thousand dollars to be spent for books. The success of the undertaking was assured from the beginning and no small amount of its early progress can be credited to the efforts of Charles Darlington. At present the association has no indebtedness and upon the shelves of the library are twelve thousand dollars worth of books, some of them so valuable as to command almost fabulous prices in the market today. The library contains approximately four thousand books, including the court reports of thirty-eight states complete, all the United States court reports



and statutes and an index of citations which extends over a period of two hundred years. The library is also well fitted with law encyclopedias, and the "American and English Encyclopedia of Law and Procedure." Among the state reports are those of Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, all of which now are out of print, which makes them very valuable.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

Some one has said that if Eve had not eaten the apple in the Garden of Eden, there would be no need of physicians in the world—but she did eat of the apple. There are few people who have any particular desire to die if they can keep from it and as long as the desire to live is in the human breast so long will there be a demand for physicians.

Greene county had only been fairly organized when the first doctor arrived on the scene, and from that day to this he has been an integral part of the county's life. No one can gainsay his value to the community; even the undertaker must admit that the physician has his place in our scheme of civilization.

#### TAXING GREENE COUNTY PHYSICIANS.

It is not generally known that physicians, and also lawyers, were placed on the tax duplicate at so much per head during the two decades prior to the adoption of the constitution of 1850. Basing their right to such action on an act of the General Assembly, the Greene county commissioners on June 11, 1830, decided to schedule the physicians for taxation, an order of that date reading as follows: "The commissioners and auditor proceeded to estimate the annual income of the practicing lawyers and physicians, and to charge a tax upon each; which tax as charged is attached to their respective names on the lists returned by the assessor to the auditor."

Whether the annual income of the physician was estimated from what he actually collected during the year, or from the gross amount of his business, is not known. The tax on the physicians ranged from one to three dollars each, and it is presumed that every physician in the county had to pay the tax before he could practice. It is evident that this taxing of the physicians continued up to 1850, but only one of the original tax schedules listing the physicians has been found by the historian.

This ancient document of 1830 lists under the heading of "Physicians and Surgeons" the following men: Joshua Martin, Joseph Johnson, Joseph Templeton, Jeremiah Woolsey, William Bell, Mathias Winans, Horace Lawrence, Robert E. Stephens, Eulass Ball, Randolph R. Green, Leonard Rush and M. P. Baskerville (or Baskanelle, the name being very illegibly written). This would seem to indicate that the county had only these twelve

physicians in 1830. The document in question does not state their annual income nor the amount of tax they were to pay. Nor is there anything to indicate their location in the county, how long they had been practicing here, nor any other fact of their professional career.

But there is another class of healers listed in 1830 on this same venerable document, and just what they were, or just how they treated their patients is not certain. They were listed as "Steam Doctors," eight in number, and were presumably recognized by the law as having a status apart from the regular physicians. These "steam" specialists were Stacy Hains, Maurice Hawkins, Frederick Beemer, Amasa Read, James Hays, Childrip Askew, Thomas P. Moorman and Abraham Gause. Nothing has been discovered of any these men except Moorman, who was a Quaker of Sugar-creek township, a school teacher, farmer and doctor of the steam variety—a combination of occupations which evidently insured him plenty of work to do to keep busy all the time. He is credited with having settled in the township as early as 1812.

Since the "steam" doctor has long ago steamed his last victim, it is difficult to ascertain his *modus operandi*. From the best information which can be gained it seems that they did not employ actual steam in their treatments, but rather used such concoctions and infusions as heated their patients to a point where the patient was caused to perspire profusely. The historian has seen an account of a "steam" doctor who lived in Champaign county, Ohio, in the '30s and '40s, and her—she was a woman—treatment has been described by one of her victims. It is probable that her steam brethren of Greene county followed the same procedure. One of her patients left a written account of her efforts to sweat him to health, saying, among other things, "that her stuff had made him so hot that his clothes smelled like burnt rags for a month." After filling her patients with the hottest mixture she could concoct, the infusion being a compound of "yarbs," she wrapped him in blankets, tucked him in bed, had the room heated to as high a temperature as the cabin would allow and then left him in this heated condition "to extract all the juice out of his anatomy possible, then sponged him off with cold water, and wound him up in a woolen blanket to get well or die." It is small wonder that, as was sometimes said, internal spontaneous combustion was narrowly averted.

But the "steam" doctor had his day. Medical science was not as definitely established in those days as it is at present. The newspapers of antebellum days tell of all kinds of so-called doctors. Some called themselves "calomel" doctors; others boldly advertised that they did not use calomel; still others relied on a kind of salve, others on smoke from native herbs, others on ordinary clay. Soaking feet in water containing a strong solu-

tion of tobacco was a sovereign remedy for rheumatism, and, strange as it may seem, a colored barber of Xenia in 1917 informed the historian that he had just tried the tobacco remedy for the same complaint.

#### NEWSPAPERS OF EARLY DAYS VS. MEDICAL PROGRESS.

A few of the early physicians advertised themselves in the columns of the Xenia papers, but it is evident that most of them did not feel it necessary to call the attention of the public to their profession. When a physician first made his appearance in the town he usually ran an advertisement for a time in the papers. For instance, Dr. L. Marshall announced his location as follows (*Ohio People's Press*, May 30, 1828):

#### DOCTOR L. MARSHALL

Respectfully acquaints the public that he has commenced the practice of PHYSIC & SURGERY in Xenia. His shop is on Main Street, one door east of Mr. Newcom's Grocery.

No other physician advertised his calling in that paper during 1828 and Doctor Marshall's card ran for but two months. Some of the early physicians announced through the papers that they did not use calomel; others that they did. They all claimed to be surgeons, and in as far as they were capable of lancing a patient for bleeding purposes, they were all surgeons. But it is apparent that the physicians of ante-bellum days were not prone to advertise themselves.

However, if the physicians did not feel called upon to use the columns of the local papers, the makers and venders of patent medicines were not averse to extolling the merits of their concoctions. There was as much, if not more, patent medicine humor seventy-five years ago than there is today. For years before the Civil War, the local papers advertised Parker's Vegetable Renovating Panacea for the cure of "Rheumatism, Liver Complaint, Ulcers and Syphilitic Diseases." This superior medicine not only was a "sure and swift specific" for the diseases mentioned, but it also cured jaundice, indigestion and all "complaints incident to the change of seasons." Month after month and year after year, so one local paper advertised, "A few bottles of the above valuable medicine are for sale at the office of the *People's Press*."

By the '50s, practically half the advertising space in the local papers was given over to patent medicines. Some of these concoctions claimed to cure nearly every disease then known to mankind. Brandreth's Pills are "ninety-two years old" and are equally good for "man, woman or infant;" "a genuine cure" for paralysis, St. Vitus Dance, epilepsy, rheumatism, cholera morbus, etc." As early as 1840 it is to be noted that there was a "Great Remedy for Consumption" and at the same time, this same panacea

—Winter's Balsam of Wild Cherry—was a specific for pleurisy, asthma, bronchitis, hemorrhages and all affections of the pulmonary organs. \$1.00 per bottle.

Another old friend appeared in the '50s. Doctor Jayne's Family Medicines, still on the market, were with our grandfathers in the '50s. Jayne had six different medicines advertised at that time and there is not a disease to which human flesh is heir that could not be cured by one—or a combination of two or more—of these six; at least, the reader of the advertisement was so informed. But valuable as the Jayne medicines were, they were not to be compared with "The Greatest Medicine of the Age," namely Hunt's Liniment. This medicine cured as many diseases as could be printed in a paragraph of ten lines, and for each disease it was "a certain, safe and speedy cure." Here are a few of the common diseases it would cure: Tic doloieux, quinsy, nervous diseases, rheumatism (all early patent medicines cured rheumatism, scrofula, bunions, corns, hives, paralysis and mosquito bites. It takes half a column to set forth appropriately the merits of this wonderful liniment.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral was engaged in the laudatory work of "arresting the prevailing disease and terror of our climate—consumption" as early as 1845. This same concoction was in the same "arresting" business until the pure food and drug act of 1906 came into existence, and it is still on the market. And there were other "consumption cures" in the days before the Civil War, all of which made weekly use of the local papers to chronicle their merits. Dr. Rodger's Compound of Liverwort and Tar was headed with the startling announcement that "Upwards of Ten Thousand Cured!!—Consumption can be Cured." This concoction duly set forth that by its use a number of people can testify that they have been "cured of a continual spitting of blood," "snatched from a premature grave, and saved when even my physicians thought I must die of consumption."

But enough has been quoted from the early papers of Greene county to show that the patent medicine advertisement of today is not a recent thing in the realm of wit and humor. It is no wonder the old-time editor did not feel it necessary to run a separate column of jokes. Who could not enjoy this: "Joy to the World. Perry Davis' Pain Killer in the West." Doctor Townsend consumed half a column to inform the female public that his Compound Extract of Sarsaparilla is "A Wonder and Blessing, the Most Extraordinary Medicine in the World." To read his advertisement one would be led to believe that there would be no women left in this world today if he had not appeared on the scene with his medicine. "Six times cheaper, pleasanter and warranted superior to any sold." \$1.00 per quart.

One more reference to the medical columns of the early papers. It

would seem that the physicians of Greene county would have little to do, judging by the wonderful medicines which were then ready-made for people's use. Here is one that ought to have given the ordinary physician heart failure: "Detergent and Diuretic, Sarsaparilla, Wild Cherry & Dandelion Compound," the masterpiece of one Doctor Myers, whoever he may have been. This "universal" medicine had a more comprehensive curative field than any of the others which the historian found in the early papers. It actually "cured" everything from dandruff in the hair, consumption of the lungs, gravel in the kidneys and bowel complaints to blisters on the heel and corns on the toes. It must have been what its advertiser called it—"The Universal Medicine."

#### SOME EARLY PHYSICIANS.

An effort has been made to compile a list of all the physicians who have practiced in Greene county since 1803, and it has been found that they number more than two hundred. Of course, a large number of these were in the county only a short time, and consequently left very little impression on the county. In the following pages are presented brief sketches of a few of these physicians who are now deceased. It is not presumed that this list includes all the worthy men of the profession, but it does include those concerning whom sufficient information has been preserved to make a brief sketch. The later careers of some of the number is not a matter of local records.

The following physicians are given special mention in the following pages: Andrew W. Davidson, Joshua Martin, Joseph Johnson, William Bell, Joseph Templeton, Samuel Martin, Mathias Winans, Horace Lawrence, Ewlass Ball, Henry Good, Jeremiah Woolsey, John W. Greene, John M. Reid, Alexander Reid, Reuben C. Hoover, Edward F. Searl, Micajah P. Moorman, Camaralza H. Spahr, J. S. Dillon, John George Folck, Joseph M. Folck, Barbara A. Shigley Folck, Susan Folck, C. B. Jones, George Watt, Doctor McCune, J. M. Stewart, Andrew Winter, W. A. Hagenbuck, Oscar M. Marquart, R. S. Finley, John Turnbull, Frank M. Kent, Clark M. Galloway, William P. Madden and Raymond W. Smith.

Andrew W. Davidson has the honor of having been the first physician to locate in Xenia. He was a young unmarried man when he came here in 1805 and soon became one of the most active men in the infant village. He was married on June 15, 1807, to Rebecca Todd. In 1811 he built the first brick house in the town, and three years later built the first stone house in town. In addition to his medical practice he found time to be a tailor and village merchant, this triplicate line of activities probably being necessary to make a comfortable living. During the winter of 1820-1821 Doctor

Davidson moved his family to Columbus, Indiana, and subsequently located in Madison, Indiana, where he died in his thirty-ninth year.

Joshua Martin, who if not the second physician to locate in Xenia was one among the first, was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, March 23, 1791, and died in Louisville, Kentucky, November 30, 1865. He graduated from a medical school at Lexington, Kentucky, and in a short time located in Xenia, reaching the village in the fall of 1813. His method of treating an epidemic known as the "cold plague" was so successful that he was soon in wide demand throughout this whole section of the state. His practice was so heavy that he began to fear for his own health, and consequently after two years left the village for Lawrenceburg, Indiana, where he went into the mercantile business with his brother. Within a year he was back in Xenia, having lost all his money in the business venture. He married Hester Whiteman, daughter of Gen. Benjamin Whiteman, on June 4, 1818. She died in February, 1834, and in April, 1835, he married Sarah Poague. His second wife died in 1841, leaving him with an infant daughter. Subsequently, he brought his four unmarried sisters to Xenia, one later dying in 1851, while the other three, together with his daughter, lived with him until his death in 1865. He died at Louisville and his body was brought back to Xenia for burial.

Joseph Johnson was in the county only a few years, but he was one of the strong men of his day. He located in Xenia in 1814 for the practice of medicine and six years later was elected to the lower house of the General Assembly to represent Greene county. He subsequently moved to Galena, Illinois, where he died June 5, 1847, in his sixty-fourth year.

William Bell was in the county as early as 1830, appearing on the list of physicians taxed in that year, and he may have been here for several years before that. He first located at Bellbrook, but eventually moved to Xenia where he practiced until his death.

Joseph Templeton came from western Pennsylvania to Xenia in 1826 and was one of the leaders in his profession during his career in the town. He was married when he came here, and his wife is said to have been the first person to have started a school for the colored children in the little village. The doctor was a very outspoken abolitionist. About 1834 he returned to his former home in Pennsylvania on account of family ties, disposing of his practice to Dr. Samuel Martin. A few years later Doctor Templeton returned to Xenia and was again a resident of the city for a number of years, but in 1843 he again returned to his Pennsylvania home. His last trip to Xenia in 1865 was followed by his death a few days after he returned to his home in the east.

Samuel Martin was born in Ireland in 1796, educated in Glasgow Uni-

versity, Scotland, and was supposed to enter the service of the British navy upon his graduation. However, he did not go to sea, but instead married and settled to practice in Ireland. His wife died less than a year afterwards, and Doctor Martin at once came to America. He liked the country and was soon happily located at Noblesville, Pennsylvania, where he later married Helen Anderson. In 1834 he bought the practice of Dr. Joseph Templeton, of Xenia, Ohio, and made this city his home from that year until his death on June 21, 1879, being in his eighty-third year. His wife died in 1859, and he later married Nancy Liggett, who survived him. Probably more young men read medicine in his office than in any other office in the county. Seven physicians who had been his students attended his funeral and four of them, all residents of Xenia, acted as pall-bearers.

Mathias Winans, one of the first physicians at Jamestown, came from Maysville, Kentucky, to Greene county in 1820. He bought a farm in Silvercreek township, although he lived in the village of Jamestown. In his later years he associated his son-in-law, John Dawson, with him as partner. Doctor Winans was the father of Judge James Winans, while two other sons became physicians. He died in July, 1840, in Cincinnati, his burial being at Jamestown.

Horace Lawrence was practicing in the county as early as 1830. He had his humble shop about five miles east of Cedarville, near Bloxsons bridge, at the point where the Columbus pike crossed Massies creek. He had two nephews who became physicians: Horace, a son of his brother Levi L., and Deluna. The former was accidentally killed at Kenton, Ohio, while the latter died of consumption in his young manhood.

Ewlass Ball combined the practice of medicine with the keeping of a store at Clifton as early as 1827. He was taxed as one of the county's physicians in 1830. Two other physicians at Clifton in early days were Joshua Wilson and John H. Prescott. The latter forsook the pill bag of the physician for the green bag of the lawyer, and still later in life became a preacher. Prescott located in Xenia about 1840 and died there, November 16, 1872, at the age of sixty-four. He is buried at Xenia.

Henry Good practiced in Xenia for several years after locating here in 1817, subsequently moving to Madison, Indiana. Jeremiah Woolsey was in Xenia as early as 1827, but he practiced in the village only a few years. He removed to Cincinnati, where he died on February 6, 1834. He was probably the first physician in the country to use cold water to reduce the temperature of fever patients. Such was his success with his methods of handling fever cases that his services in the treatment of this disease were in demand over a wide stretch of territory. He was the grandfather of Dr. Ida C. Woolsey, who is still practicing in Xenia.



John W. Greene, a son of Dr. Randolph R. Greene, was born in Bath township, Greene county, Ohio, February 24, 1825. His father was the first physician to locate in Fairfield and one of the first to settle in the county. Dr. R. R. Greene was born in Pennsylvania in 1787, educated in his native state, located at Fairfield in 1820, and continued there in practice until his death of cholera in 1849. Dr. J. W. Greene graduated from Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati, in 1846 and practiced with his father until the latter's death in 1849. He then continued in practice at Fairfield.

John M. and Alexander Reid were Scotchmen who came to this country in the '30s. Since they knew that a goodly number of their countrymen who were members of the Seceder church of which they also were members, were residents of Greene county, they came directly here, and settled about two miles south of Xenia, resuming the practice of their profession soon after they became residents of Greene county. Unfortunately they were not fully aware of the Calvinistic morals of the people of this community, for they employed a woman as their housekeeper. This was considered by their neighbors an affront to the morals of the community, and they appointed a committee to take the matter up with the two brothers, who assured the committeemen that their conduct was entirely above reproach. Nevertheless the explanation did not satisfy the committee and the two doctor brothers found it necessary to make different arrangements concerning their living conditions. Dr. John M. Reid was the elder of the two brothers. He was born in 1780 and was graduated from St. Andrew University on September 5, 1818. His diploma of parchment and written in Latin is framed and is now hanging in the laboratory of the Xenia Hospital, an interesting relic of the medical fraternity in Greene county. He later obtained the degree of Master of Arts, to which he added the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He doubtlessly practiced his profession while in Scotland and was a leader in his profession, for he left a volume of lectures which he compiled on medical subjects. He did not long enjoy living in this new country, for his death occurred on July 12, 1840. Dr. Alexander Reid, the younger of the brothers, was born in 1782. He followed in the footsteps of his elder brother, for he entered the same profession, obtained the same degrees, immigrated to this country and practiced medicine here in Greene county. He survived his brother fourteen years, his death occurring on May 16, 1854.

Reuben C. Hoover was born in Shippensburg, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, June 1, 1821. He read medicine under his uncle, Dr. Joseph M. Smith, in Adams county, Ohio, and then entered the Jefferson Medical School, Philadelphia. Subsequently he graduated from the Pennsylvania Medical College of the same city, practiced for ten years in Cumberland

county, in his home state, and in 1854 located at Springfield, Ohio. The following year he came to Greene county and located at Osborn, where he remained for several years. He married Catherine Smith in 1843 and they became the parents of five children, two of whom became physicians: Calvin, who died at the age of thirty-two, and Reuben C., Jr., who was graduated from the Cleveland Medical College in 1876.

Edward F. Searl was born in New York state, September 27, 1841, and was reared in Portage county, Ohio, where his parents<sup>d</sup> moved the year of his birth. He was graduated from Cleveland Medical College in 1861, and at once located in Huron, Ohio. In May, 1863, he came to Greene county and opened his office at Fairfield, where he practiced for many years. He was married in 1866 to Margaret Campbell.

Micajah P. Moorman was born in Sugarcreek township, this county, February 8, 1824, and commenced the practice of medicine in Jamestown in the spring of 1858. He was a Quaker, and, so it appears, was one of the so-called "steam doctors." One of the Moormans—Thomas P.—was listed and taxed under the head of steam doctors in 1830.

Camaralza H. Spahr was born east of Xenia on January 30, 1826. In the fall of 1846 he began the study of medicine with Dr. E. Owen, of Champaign county, Ohio, later graduating from Starling Medical College. He located at Jamestown on February 2, 1854. He married Mary A. Peters on March 11, 1858. Doctor Spahr had one brother, B. E., who was a physician, dying in 1861.

J. S. Dillon was born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1840. Few men of the county went through the experiences he did before he finally settled in Xenia for the practice of his profession. At the age of nineteen he was in Kansas in charge of a hotel which was left on his hands at the death of his father. The business was not exciting enough for him, so he sold out at the opening of the Civil War and went into speculating in army supplies, eventually becoming a sutler with one of the armies of the North. He followed this business until the close of the war and with \$50,000 worth of goods he went into Mexico to make his fortune. He did not meet with much success, finally getting rid of all his goods and having only four thousand sheep to his credit. These he took to Montana, where he sold them at a big sacrifice. His next venture was in attempting to fill a government contract of beef for the Navajo Indians in New Mexico. While taking a herd of three thousand cattle to the Indian reservation he was set upon by a party of Comanche Indians, and ten of his men were killed and he managed to arrive at his destination with only two hundred and eighteen head of his cattle. Then he decided to settle down to the practice of medicine, a knowledge of which he seemed to have collected in some way, and located in Arkansas.

After about seven years in that state he came to Xenia in the latter part of the '70s, but he was never considered much of a practitioner.

There is no family in Greene county which has furnished more physicians than the Folck family, who became identified with Bath township as early as 1802. John George Folck, the first of the family to locate in the county, came here from Pennsylvania and seems to have had a reputation as some kind of a healer when he arrived in the county. At least, for several years his services were in demand throughout his section of the county. Dr. John George Folck died in 1839, leaving each of his four sons a farm. Daniel, one of the sons, received the old homestead, but died two years later, leaving five children: Joseph M., John, Barbara, George and Mary Ann. Joseph M., born July 9, 1824, in the township became the best known physician of the family. He married Barbara Ann Shigley, also a physician, and he and his wife practiced together for nearly forty years. She had an extensive office practice while her husband attended to the traveling cases. One of Dr. J. M. Folck's brothers married a physician, and Dr. Susan Folck is remembered as a faithful physician of the community for many years.

C. B. Jones was born in Greene county in 1849, one of nine children born to George W. Jones and wife. He graduated from one of the medical colleges of Cincinnati in 1872 and at once located in Xenia to practice. In 1874 he married Alice Ewing, and the following year became the regular physician in charge at the Ohio Sailors and Soldiers Orphans Home at Xenia.

George Watt, a physician and dentist, was born in Greene county, Ohio, in 1820. He was a nephew of James Watt, of Glasgow, Scotland, discoverer of the composition of water. Doctor Watt was surgeon of the One Hundred and Fifty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, from May 2, 1864, to September 4, 1864, when he was compelled to resign on account of physical disability. He held a professorship in the Ohio College of Dental Surgery of Cincinnati for twenty years, and for fifteen years was editor of the *Dental Register*. He was twice elected professor of chemistry of two different colleges in New York City, but was unable to accept on account of his health. He was the author of a widely used volume entitled "Watt's Chemical Essays," published in 1867, and he also published hundreds of special articles on chemical and allied subjects. Doctor Watt married Sarah J. McConnell, of Xenia, in 1845.

Doctor McCune is credited with being the first physician in Cedarville township, having located there about 1833. He is not listed among the physicians of the county in 1830, a fact which would indicate that he did not come into the county until after that year. Some of the older residents

have claimed he came to the county before 1830. It is not known how long he remained in the township, nor when or where he died.

J. M. Stewart was born in York district, South Carolina, early in the nineteenth century, probably in the '20s. He came with his parents to Greene county when a boy and located three miles east of Xenia. He completed his education in Xenia and then taught school for eight years. He had been reading medicine in the meantime with Doctor Martin, of Xenia, and in 1846 began the practice of his new profession at Cedarville. He was married in 1848 to Rosanna Orr and they became the parents of five children. He continued to practice in Cedarville until his death.

W. A. Hagenbuck was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, in 1831. His parents came to Greene county in 1836 and located at Fairfield. He finished his elementary schooling in the Springfield schools and in 1852 began reading medicine with Dr. J. J. McKenney, of Fairfield, remaining with him three years. He then entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, graduating in 1855. He first located at Fairfield, but the following year moved to Alpha where he practiced for a number of years. He was married in 1860 to Sarah J. Harbine.

Oscar M. Marquart was born in Clark county, Ohio, June 5, 1858. He graduated from Miami Medical College of Cincinnati, in 1884, and immediately located at Enon, Clark county, for practice. The following year he removed to Osborn, Greene county.

R. S. Finley was born in Winchester, Adams county, Ohio, in 1827, and came with his parents to Xenia when a small boy. He graduated from a Cincinnati Medical School in 1850 and immediately began the practice of his chosen profession in Xenia. He was first called an eclectic physician, but later in life became a homeopath. He died in Xenia in 1906.

Edwin I. Thorn, a son of Isaac Thorn, also a practicing physician of the county, was born at Yellow Springs, October 31, 1847. Dr. Isaac Thorn died of cholera at Springfield in 1849. Dr. Edwin I. Thorn was reared in Springfield, but before reaching his majority began the study of medicine with his uncle, Dr. Elihu Thorn, at Yellow Springs. He then attended for a time the medical department of the University of Michigan, completing his medical education with a year of study in Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, graduating from the latter institution in 1868. He at once located in Yellow Springs and practiced with his uncle, Dr. Isaac Thorn, until the latter's death on October 2, 1876. Following the death of his uncle, Dr. Edwin I. Thorn continued the practice of his profession in Yellow Springs.

Frank M. Kent was born in Bellbrook, Greene county, Ohio, on August 31, 1864. He began teaching at the age of nineteen and later took up the study of medicine by reading in the office of Dr. W. H. Finley, then of

Spring Valley, now of Xenia. He entered Ohio Medical College in 1887 and was graduated two years later. His first location was at Lowell, Ohio, but in 1896 he removed to Spring Valley where he practiced until 1905, when he located at Bellevue, Ohio. He was married on June 3, 1891, to Martha Graham.

Clark Madison Galloway was born in Greene county on April 20, 1843, and became recognized as one of the most scholarly men the county has ever produced. After taking an active part in the Civil War as a member of two different regiments, and seeing some of the hardest fighting of the war, he was mustered out at its close, being then only twenty-two years of age. He at once became a student in Xenia College and after completing its course entered Miami University, graduating therefrom in 1871. He was especially attracted to the classics, and as a result of his university work he was well qualified to assume the duties of professor of Greek, Latin and mathematics in Xenia College upon his graduation in 1871. He remained with the local college four years, teaching in the summer normal school connected with the college. Meanwhile, he had decided to study medicine, and with this end in view he entered the Medical College of Ohio and completed its full course in the spring of 1877. He at once located in Xenia where he practiced alone until his brother, William A., began practice in 1890. The two brothers then practiced together until the death of the elder brother on November 21, 1914. Dr. C. M. Galloway was active in everything which pertained to the general welfare. Broadminded, sympathetic, and with a comprehensive grasp of men and affairs, he stood as a leader among men. There was no worthy enterprise which did not find in him an enthusiastic supporter. He was coroner of Greene county for eight years; member of the board of education of Xenia for twelve years; physician and surgeon to the Ohio Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home for three years (1888-1891); for several years secretary of the Xenia board of United States pension examiners; assistant surgeon of the old Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad for years; member of the city council of Xenia for two years, and a member of the city board of health for the same length of time. He was an active worker in the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Presbyterian church, the Masonic fraternity, and in various medical societies.

William P. Madden was born in County Galway, Ireland, March 14, 1842, and came to this country in his youth, serving four years in the Civil War. He graduated from the Eclectic Institute, of Cincinnati, in 1875. He first located at Cedarville, Ohio, and later removed to Xenia where he practiced until his death on May 30, 1908.

The late Dr. Raymond Wesley Smith received his secondary education

in the high and normal schools of Hillsborough, Ohio, after which he taught school for two years in this county, teaching at New Jasper and at Roxanna. He then entered the Louisville Medical College and Kentucky School of Medicine, from which he was graduated in 1893. In September of that year he located at Spring Valley, where he continued to practice until his death, August 18, 1916, as the result of an automobile accident.

Of the physicians of the county of a later generation the following are represented in the biographical volume of this work: George Anderson, Henry F. Baker, H. A. Cosler, George Davis, Paul D. Espey, W. H. Finley, W. A. Galloway, Horace R. Hawkins, L. M. Jones, C. A. Lindsay, C. G. McPherson, Reed Madden, A. C. Messenger, C. E. Ream, W. S. Ritenour, David E. Spahr, S. Maria Stewart, John Turnbull, A. N. Vanderman, L. C. Walker, Andrew Winter and Ida C. Woolsey.

#### PARTIAL LIST OF GREENE COUNTY PHYSICIANS.

Since 1896 there has been a law requiring the registration of all the physicians in Ohio by counties. The local medical association of Greene county has a complete list of all the physicians of the county who have been registered in the county since this law went into effect. The following pages present the list as furnished by the secretary of the association. It will be noticed that the year of graduation from medical college is given, together with their places of practice. In case the present location of the physician is known it is also indicated. This list of one hundred and two physicians follows, those now practicing in the county being set out in italic:

#### PHYSICIANS OF GREENE COUNTY.

*Adams, Frank C.*, Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1901; Bellbrook, 1904; Waynesville, 1909; Clifton, 1910; Yellow Springs, 1917.

*Adams, J. R.*, Ohio Medical University, Columbus, 1905; Jamestown, 1905; Milledgeville, Ohio, 1908.

*Anderson, George*, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, 1891; Alpha.

*Bailey, Frank R.*, University of Pennsylvania, 1913; Western Pennsylvania Hospital Reserve, July, 1913; Xenia, July, 1914; Pittsburgh, March, 1915.

*Baldwin, Ira W.*, Medical College of Ohio, March, 1867; Xenia; died, February 4, 1902.

*Baker, Henry F.*, Pulte Medical College, 1873; Yellow Springs.

*Bedinger, David W.*, Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, 1902; Belibrook; Spring Valley, 1909.

*Blackford, George*, Pulte Medical College (Homoepathic), Cincinnati, 1904; Xenia, 1906; Middletown, 1907.

*Brundage, Alfred H.*, Albany Medical College, June, 1856; Xenia; died December 10, 1903.

*Brundage, Lawrence M.*, Medical College of Ohio, March, 1890; Xenia; died August 1, 1908.

*Bryan, Clyde Alvin*, Starling Medical College, 1896; Osborn, 1896.

*Campbell, Bailey W.*, Medical College of Ohio, 1896; Osborn, 1896; moved to Dayton.

*Carey, Simeon*, Medical College of Ohio, 1858; Spring Valley, 1896; deceased.

*Clark, Charles*, Miami Medical College, 1891; Jamestown; died in Cincinnati.

*Collins, Foster K.*, Philadelphia Medical, 1899; Philadelphia.

- Cosler, Harry Abram*, Ohio Medical University, Columbus, 1902; Fairfield, 1905.
- Crabill, Thomas Voss*, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, 1893; Osborn, 1895.
- Curtis, John Lidney*, Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1896; ———, 1900.
- Dale, Joseph E.*, Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, April, 1894; Yellow Springs; Ft. Collins, Colorado.
- Darnell, William Turner* (colored), Jenner Medical College, Chicago, 1908; Xenia, 1910; Medical Officers Reserve Corps, 1917.
- Davis, George*, Medical College of Ohio, 1900; New Jasper, 1900.
- Deardorf, William*, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, June, 1895; Jamestown, May 25, 1896; Springfield, Ohio.
- DeHaven, Albert D.*, Bennett College (Eclectic), Chicago, 1888; Xenia, 1897.
- Dennis, Glenn K.*, Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, 1904; Speer's Hospital, Cincinnati, one year; Covington, Kentucky; Bowersville, 1908.
- Dice, James P.*, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, May, 1869; Xenia.
- Dice, Seth Delmar*, Medical Department of the University of New York, 1897; Xenia, 1899; California, 1906.
- Dice, William Gordon*, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, 1896; Xenia, 1896; Toledo, Ohio.
- Donaldson, David F.*, Medical College of Ohio, 1888; Port William, 1899; Jamestown, 1900; died May 23, 1901.
- Dyke, Samuel E.*, Louisville Medical College, 1875; Spring Valley; died, 1909.
- Finley, Robert S.*, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, 1849; Xenia; died, 1906.
- Finley, William H.*, Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati, 1881; Xenia.
- Finney, John Monfort*, Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati, 1910; Cedarville, 1910; Parkersburg, Idaho.
- Fudge, Joseph Granville*, Illinois Medical College, Chicago, 1903; New Burlington, 1904; Spring Valley, 1909; died, 1918.
- Galloway, Clark M.*, Medical College of Ohio, April 28, 1877; Xenia; died, November 21, 1914.
- Galloway, William A.*, Medical College of Ohio, March 6, 1890; Xenia.
- Greason, Charles Edwin*, Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, 1898; Skyomish, Washington, 1898.
- Gregg, Elijah H.*, American Eclectic, Cincinnati, 1887; Dayton, Ohio, 1900; Zimmermans, 1908.
- Grube, Robert Humphreys*, Medical College of Ohio, Cincinnati, 1886; Grape Grove, 1900; Xenia, 1904.
- Haffner, William M.*, Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1882; Yellow Springs, 1897.
- Haines, Renver LeRoy*, Starling Medical College, Columbus, 1913; Paintersville, 1913.
- Hamma, Charles B.*, Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, 1892; Yellow Springs, 1908; Springfield, Ohio, 1910; Medical Officers Reserve Corps, 1917.
- Harris, James M.*, Bellevue Medical College, New York, 1868; Yellow Springs, 1896; Utah; Isle of Pines, 1905; died, 1908.
- Hawkins, Horace Robert*, Cleveland Homeopathic, 1892; Xenia.
- Hendrixson, O. P.*, Columbus Medical College, 1885; Yellow Springs, 1900; Columbus, Ohio, 1905.
- Hewitt, Warren C.*, Cleveland Homeopathic College, 1888; Ohio State Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home, Xenia, 1903.
- Hilliard, Louis William* (colored), Cleveland University of Medicine and Surgery, 1895; Parkersburg, West Virginia; Xenia, 1909; deceased.
- Hook, George Curp*, Columbus Medical College, March, 1885; Bellbrook.
- Humphrey, William H.*, Medical College of Ohio, February 27, 1877; Yellow Springs.
- Jones, Clement L.*, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, 1903; Columbus, 1904; Jamestown, 1906; Springfield, Ohio, 1912.

Jones, Grace, Toledo Medical College, 1900; Ohio State Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home, Xenia, 1907; Booneville, Missouri, 1916.

*Jones, L. M.*, Miami Medical College, March, 1871; Jamestown.

Kent, Frank Marion, Medical College of Ohio, March, 1889; Spring Valley, May 25, 1896; Bellevue, Ohio, 1905.

*Lackey, J. Clarke*, Ohio Medical University, Columbus, 1896; Jamestown, 1900.

*Lindsay, Frank T.* (colored), Howard Medical, Washington, D. C., 1875; Xenia, 1896; died, June 2, 1910.

*Love, Andrew James* (colored, Meharry, Nashville, Tennessee, 1910; Xenia, 1910; Columbus, Ohio, 1911.

*Madden, Pearl Reed*, Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, June, 1894; Xenia.

Madden, William P., Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, May, 1877; Xenia; died, May 30, 1908.

Marquart, Oscar M., Miami Medical College, 1884; Osborn, 1896; Springfield, Ohio.

*Marquart, Philip C.*, University of Louisville, 1894; Osborn, 1896.

*Marsh, Miron I.*, Medical College of Ohio, April, 1895; Cedarville.

Martin, Joseph Spencer, American School of Osteopathy, Missouri, 1904; Xenia, 1904; Madison county, Ohio.

*Messenger, Asa C.*, Medical College of Ohio, March, 1884; Xenia, May 25, 1896.

*Messenger, Harold Clay*, Medico-Chirurgical, Philadelphia, 1914; Miami Valley Hospital, 1914; Xenia, 1915; Medical Officers Reserve Corps, 1918.

Morris, Olive, Iowa State University, 1880; Bellbrook, 1896; Waynesville.

*McClellan, Benjamin Rush*, Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, 1884; Xenia; Medical Officers Reserve Corps, 1917.

McClellan, Harvey R., Starling Medical College, Columbus, 1854; Xenia; died, October 17, 1915.

McKenzie, Charles D., Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1896; Bowersville; Lancaster, 1908.

*McPherson, Clarence G.*, Starling Medical College, Columbus, 1908; Xenia, 1908.

Newsome, Charles Edgar (colored), Ohio Medical University, Columbus, 1893; died 1903.

*Ogan, Frank W.*, Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati, 1887; Jamestown.

*Oglesbee, Elsthor E.*, Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, 1885; Cedarville.

Parkhill, John William, American Medical College (Homeopathic), St. Louis, 1876; Grape Grove, 1898; Hopedale, Ohio.

Pherson, Albert M., Miami Medical College, 1876; Osborn; died October 7, 1909.

*Ream, Charles E.*, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, June, 1894; Bowersville.

*Richison, Rush R.*, Ohio Medical University, 1904; Van Wert; Yellow Springs, September, 1914.

*Ritenour, W. S.*, Starling Medical College, Columbus, 1911; Bellbrook, December, 1911; Xenia, May, 1915; U. S. Public Health Service, 1917.

Rose, Ferdinand W., Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1876; Port William, 1897; Jamestown, 1906; died, 1908.

Rouse, William L., Medical College of Ohio, March, 1875; Paintersville, May 25, 1896; died, October 18, 1910.

*Savage, Thomas J.*, Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1877; Bowersville; Xenia, 1903.

Schrock, Elisha Bernard, Ohio Medical University, Columbus, 1900; Yellow Springs, 1900; Scioto county, 1905; Alaska, 1910; Seattle, Washington.

Sewell, Silas G., Medical College of Ohio, March, 1887; New Burlington, May 25, 1896; Greenville, Ohio; Albuquerque, New Mexico; died, 1912.

Shaffer, William A., Pulte Medical College, Cincinnati, 1875; Xenia, 1896; Bowersville, 1903; Xenia, 1907; California, 1915.

Shimp, A. Jose, Jefferson College, Philadelphia, 1888; Eau Claire, Wisconsin.



Smith, Raymond W., Louisville Medical College, 1893; Spring Valley; died, August 18, 1916.

Snider, J. Jennings, Bennett Eclectic Medical College, Chicago, 1886; Xenia, 1897; Salt Lake City, Utah; died, 1912.

*Spahr, David Edward*, Ft. Wayne (Indiana) Medical College, 1879; Clifton; Xenia, June, 1910.

*Stewart, John Orr*, Miami Medical College, March, 1883; Cedarville.

Stewart, Susan M., New York Medical College for Women, 1870; Wilberforce, 1898.

*Taylor, Lester Luke*, Starling Medical College, Columbus, 1897; Fairfield, 1897; Yellow Springs, 1905.

Thompson, Charles W., Ohio Medical University, Columbus, 1896; Bloom Center, Logan county, Ohio, February 2, 1897.

*Treharne, Thomas W.*, Detroit Medical College, 1892; Zimmermān, 1896; Dayton, 1909; Zimmerman, 1911.

Turnbull, John, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, 1863; Bellbrook; died July 19, 1904.

Vannata, Harvey, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, 1882; Sycamore, Ohio, 1896; Osborn, 1910.

Van Winkle, J. Olvin, Starling Medical College, Columbus, 1896; Spring Valley, 1903; died, February 11, 1909.

*Walker, Leonidas C.*, Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, 1882; Jamestown.

Whitehead, Clayton S., Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery, 1913; interne Toledo Hospital, 1913; Xenia, 1914; Illinois, 1915.

*Whittaker, Harry O.*, Cleveland Homeopathic College, 1901; New Burlington, 1906; Medical Officers Reserve Corps, 1917.

Wilkins, J. D., died, December 22, 1903.

Wilson, Samuel Smart, Miami Medical College, March, 1880; Xenia, May 25, 1896; Florida, 1914.

*Woolsey, Ida Clarke*, University of Michigan (Homeopathic), 1892; Xenia.

Young, Nelson H., Medical College of Ohio, April 9, 1896; Ohio Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home, Xenia, May 25, 1896; Toledo.

#### MEDICAL OFFICERS RESERVE CORPS.

There are now six physicians of the county in the Medical Officers Reserve Corps: Lawrence Shields, Benjamin R. McClellan, Harold Messenger, Frank Bailey, Harry O. Whitaker and Winfield S. Ritenour. There are also seven medical students from the county now in school who are listed with the Reserve Corps. The Military Chapter gives more in detail of the work of the physicians in the present war.

#### EARLIER PHYSICIANS OF GREENE COUNTY.

In addition to the one hundred and two physicians on the records of the Greene County Medical Society the historian has compiled a list of ninety-three physicians who practiced in the county prior to 1896, the year the local organization began keeping a record of the physicians of the county. Concerning many of these nothing has been found except their names, while in the case of others only fragmentary information has been preserved. The complete list follows:

- Askew, Childrep—Listed for taxation as "steam doctor" in 1830.
- Ball, Eulass—Practiced medicine and kept a small store at Clifton as early as 1827; listed for taxation in 1830.
- Baskerville, M. P.—Listed for taxation in 1830.
- Beemer, Frederick—Listed for taxation as "steam doctor" in 1830.
- Bell, William—First located at Bellbrook, and later came to Xenia; listed for taxation in 1830.
- Brelsford, J.—Bellbrook in '30s.
- Browder, Thomas P.—Located in Jamestown before 1820.
- Browne, James C.—One of the organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.
- Butler, A. B.—One of the organizers of the County Medical Society in 1850.
- Carper, Nicholas—Came to Xenia in '30s; mayor of Xenia in 1839.
- Clancy, James—Bellbrook before Civil War.
- Coburn, Joseph A.—One of the organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.
- Cowden, Andrew—At Cedarville in '30s; later in Xenia; later in Washington, Iowa, where he died.
- Crawford, George W.—Bellbrook before Civil War.
- Criffield, ———.—Bellbrook in '20s.
- Cummings, James—
- Davidson, Andrew W.—First physician in Xenia, coming in 1805; married here in 1807; built first brick and later the first stone house in Xenia; removed to Columbus, Indiana, during winter of 1820-21, and to Madison, Indiana, later, dying in latter place in 39th year of age.
- Dawson, James R.—
- Dawson, John—Son-in-law and partner for years of Mathias Winans at Jamestown.
- Dille, L. K.—One of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.
- Dillman, M. S.—
- Dillon, J. S.—Born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1840; located in Xenia in '40s.
- Drake, J. S.—
- Edwards, J. Darwin—Born September 16, 1820; died in Xenia, November 19, 1896.
- Finley, R. S.—Born in Adams county, Ohio, in 1827; Cincinnati Medical College, 1850; located in Xenia; died in Xenia, 1906.
- Folck, Barbara Ann—
- Folck, John George—
- Folck, Joseph M.—
- Folck, Susan—
- Fowler, Thomas S.—One of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.
- Frazer, William H.—Bellbrook in '20s.
- Gause, Abraham—Listed for taxation in 1830 as "steam doctor."
- Good, Henry—Located at Xenia in 1817 and a few years later removed to Madison, Indiana.
- Greene, John—Son of Randolph R.; born in 1825.
- Greene, Randolph R.—Born in Pennsylvania, 1787; located in Bath township in 1826; died there in 1832; listed for taxation in 1830.
- Grimes, William H.—Bellbrook in '40s.
- Hable, W. R.—One of the organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.
- Hagenbuck, W. A.—Born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, in 1831; came to Greene county in 1836; studied medicine under Dr. J. J. McIlkenney, of Fairfield, and later graduated (1855) from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. Located at Fairfield in 1855 and following year at Alpha; married Sarah J. Harbine in 1860.
- Hains, Stacy—Listed for taxation in 1830 as "steam doctor."
- Hartman, Charles D.—One of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.
- Hays, James—Listed for taxation in 1830 as "steam doctor."
- Higgins, W.—One of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.

Hoover, Reuben C.—Born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, June 1, 1821; located at Osborn in 1851; had two sons who became physicians, Calvin, who died at age of 32, and Reuben C., Jr.

Hussey, J. M.—Formerly practiced at Bowersville, now (1917) living in Florida.

Jewett, John—Located at Xenia in '40s; one of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850; died in Xenia, May 11, 1856.

Johnson, Joseph—Located at Xenia in 1814; Member of lower house of Legislature in 1820; listed for taxation in 1830; removed to Salem, Illinois, where he died June 5, 1847, at age of sixty-four.

Johnson, Thomas B.—Born August 9, 1906; died November 5, 1868; located at Xenia in 1829; one of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.

Jones, C. B.—Xenia, 1872.

Kable, William R.—Bellbrook in '40s.

Kyle, Joseph A.—Born in 1812; came to Xenia in 1833; died December 7, 1886; one of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.

Lawrence, Horace—Listed for taxation in 1830; located five miles east of Cedarville.

Marshall, L.—Announced his arrival in Xenia in *Ohio Peoples Press*, May 30, 1828.

Marshall, Thornton—Came to Xenia in 1826; died July 25, 1866, at age of eighty-six; father of Oscar Marshall.

Martin, Samuel—Born in Ireland in 1796; came to Xenia in 1834 and bought practice of Dr. Joseph Templeton; died June 21, 1879.

Martin, Joshua—Born in Virginia, March 23, 1791; died at Louisville, Kentucky, November 30, 1865; buried at Xenia; came to Xenia in 1813; one of the three greatest physicians the county has ever had.

Matthews, James—Located in Caesarscreek township in '30s; married Margaret Watson, March 12, 1835.

McCune, ———.—Credited with being first in Cedarville; about 1833.

McIlkenney, J. J.—Practiced at Fairfield in '50s.

Mitchell, Francis P.—Came to Xenia about 1840; died in New Orleans of yellow fever.

Moorman, Micajah P.—Born in Sugarcreek township, February 8, 1824; commenced practice at Jamestown in 1858.

Moorman, Thomas P.—Listed for taxation in 1830 as "steam doctor."

Mulford, ———.—Bellbrook in '30s.

Nagle, Borton—Came to Xenia about 1840; died April 29, 1842, at age of twenty-nine.

Newell, ———.—Early practitioner at Clifton.

Nowland, Thomas—Located in Caesarscreek township, about 1829; born in 1800; died December 9, 1835; buried at Xenia.

Perkins, C. S.—

Perkins, Isaac S.—Came to Xenia about 1826; died October 11, 1843; buried at Xenia.

Perkins, Thomas—Came to Xenia in 1806; born April 17, 1787; died in 1841; soldier of War of 1812; buried at Xenia.

Poague, J. G.—One of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.

Prescott, John H.—Came to Xenia about 1840; died in Xenia, November 16, 1872, at age of sixty-four; buried at Xenia.

Read, Amasa—Listed for taxation in 1850 as "steam doctor."

Reid, John—Brother of Alexander M.; born in Scotland, 1780; St. Andrew University, Edinburgh, September 5, 1818; later took A.M. and M.D. degrees from same university; came to Greene county in '30s; died July 12, 1840.

Reid, Alexander—Brother of John; born in Scotland, 1782; obtained same three degrees granted brother John; came with brother to Greene county; died May 16, 1854.

Rush, Leonard—Listed for taxation in 1830.

Sexton, Samuel—Greatest physician Greene county has ever had; left presently for the East and achieved an international reputation.

Searl, Edward F.—Born in New York, September 27, 1841; graduate of Cleveland

Medical College, 1861; located at Fairfield in May, 1863; married in 1866 to Margaret Campbell.

Shappee, W. A.—Now living in Los Angeles, California.

Spahr, Camaralza H.—Born in Greene county, January 20, 1826; graduate of Starling Medical College; located at Jamestown on February 2, 1854; married Mary Peters March 11, 1858; brother of Dr. B. E. Spahr.

Spahr, B. E.—Brother of Dr. C. H. Spahr.

Stephens, Robert E.—Listed for taxation in 1830.

Stewart, James M.—Born in South Carolina; came to Greene county in boyhood; studied under Doctor Martin at Xenia; began practice at Cedarville in 1846; died at Cedarville, February 23, 1899; father of Dr. John O. Stewart, now of Cedarville.

Stewart, Robert—Came to Xenia about 1820; died March 11, 1889; buried at Xenia; has a son, Samuel, now practicing in Kansas.

Templeton, Joseph—Came from Pennsylvania to Xenia in 1826; returned to old home in 1834; came back a second time to Xenia a few years later and remained until 1843; died in Pennsylvania in 1865.

Thorn, Elihu—Born January 11, 1819; died October 2, 1876; located at Yellow Springs in 1850; one of organizers of County Medical Society in 1850.

Thorn, Isaac—Located at Yellow Springs about 1840; father of Dr. A. S. Thorn.

Thorn, A. S.—

Torrence, John M.—Born in Greene county; practiced all his life at Jamestown; died there; father-in-law of Dr. Frank W. Ogan, of Jamestown.

Watt, George—Physician and dentist; great chemist, author of work on chemistry and author of numerous papers on chemistry; born in Greene county in 1820; died at Xenia in 1893; professor of Ohio College of Dental Surgery for twenty years; married Sarah J. McConnell in 1845.

Wilson, Joshua—One of first to practice in Clifton.

Winans, Mathias—Listed for taxation in 1830; came from Maysville, Kentucky, to Jamestown about 1820; father-in-law of Dr. John Dawson, and father of Judge J. J. Winans; died at Cincinnati in July, 1840; buried at Jamestown.

Winter, Andrew—Born at Fayetteville, North Carolina, August 18, 1820; Charlestown (South Carolina) Medical College, 1841; surgeon in Civil War; located at Xenia in 1864, and practiced there until his death, July 15, 1891.

Woolsey, Jeremiah D.—Died at Cincinnati, February 6, 1834; came to Xenia in 1827; listed for taxation in 1830.

Young, John A.—Came to Xenia about 1837; student of Dr. Samuel Martin, 1837-38; died May 3, 1874, at Monmouth, Illinois.

Zimmerman, George—Came to Beavercreek township in 1813; died there October 27, 1818.

#### GREENE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY OF 1918.

The Greene County Medical Society at the present time is in the most prosperous condition of its existence. It has a membership of forty-six. The officers for 1918 are as follows: W. H. Finley, president; M. I. Marsh, vice-president; H. C. Messenger, secretary and treasurer.

The physicians of the county, together with their address, are as follows:

George Anderson, Alpha; Frank C. Adams, Yellow Springs; Henry F. Baker; Mrs. Jessie Bogle, Yellow Springs; Harry A. Cosler, Fairfield; Thomas V. Crabill, Osborn; William T. Darnell (colored), Xenia; George Davis, Xenia; Albert D. DeHaven, Xenia; Glenn K. Dennis, Bowersville;

Seth D. Dice, Xenia; Paul D. Espey, Xenia; William H. Finley, Xenia; Kent Finley, Xenia; William A. Galloway, Xenia; Robert H. Grube, Xenia; W. M. Hartenger, Spring Valley; H. R. Hawkins; W. C. Hewitt, Xenia (O. S. & S. O. Home); Renver L. Haines, Paintersville; George C. Hook, Bellbrook; William H. Humphrey, Yellow Springs; Levi M. Jones, Jamestown; J. C. Lackey, Jamestown; Clarence Lindsey (colored), Xenia; Reed Madden, Xenia; Philip C. Marquart, Osborn; Miron I. Marsh, Cedarville; Ben R. McClellan, Xenia; Clarence G. McPherson, Xenia; Asa C. Messenger, Xenia; Harold C. Messenger, Xenia; Elsthon C. Oglesbee, Cedarville; Frank W. Ogan, Jamestown; W. Ritenour, Bellbrook; Charles E. Ream, Bowersville; Rush R. Richison, Yellow Springs; Thomas J. Savage, Xenia; David E. Spahr, Xenia; John O. Stewart, Cedarville; Lester L. Taylor, Yellow Springs; Thomas W. Treharne, Zimmerman; A. M. Vandeman, Bellbrook; Leonidas C. Walker, Jamestown; L. L. Whitaker, New Burlington; Ida C. Woolsey, Xenia.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### FRATERNAL AND BENEVOLENT ORGANIZATIONS.

The development and spread of various kinds of fraternal and benevolent organizations is one of the signs of progress. At the present time there are organizations for men in every vocation in life; the laboring man has his unions for his particular craft; the business and professional classes have their peculiar organizations; women have their societies of many kinds; children have their organizations to meet their needs. And it all makes for a better civilization.

The Masonic order is the oldest of the fraternal organizations, dating its beginning from the time of King Solomon. The Odd Fellows came into existence in the fore part of the eighteenth century; the Knights of Pythias sprang into existence during the Civil War period; practically all the other lodges of today have been established since the '60s.

#### MASONIC ORDER IN GREENE COUNTY.

There are five active lodges of Masons in Greene county in 1918: Xenia, Jamestown, Yellow Springs, New Burlington and Cedarville. There was formerly a lodge at Fairfield and another at Xenia, but both have surrendered their charter, the Fairfield lodge in 1831 and the Xenia lodge in 1883. The only chapter of Royal Arch Masons is at Xenia, although there was formerly one at Yellow Springs. Xenia also has the only council of Royal and Select Masters in the county. The Order of the Eastern Star has lodges at Xenia, Jamestown and New Burlington. The lodge at Fairfield was the first to be established in the county, being organized in 1817, and flourished until it was forced to suspend its labors in 1833 as a result of the anti-Masonic movement which was then sweeping over the entire country. The dates of the establishment of the other blue lodges in the county are as follow: Xenia, March 6, 1819; Jamestown, October 18, 1865; Yellow Springs, October 28, 1868; New Burlington, October 24, 1895; Cedarville, October 23, 1913. The history of the different lodges of the county of this great fraternal organization has been compiled from the data furnished by the lodges themselves, supplemented by data collected by Lewis H. Whiteman, who has written extensively on the history of Greene county Masonry.

## XENIA LODGE NO. 49, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

The history of Masonry in Greene county dates back nearly one hundred years, although there can be no doubt that some of the settlers who were living in the county on the day it was organized in 1803 were members of the craft. While the formal organization of the first lodge at Xenia occurred on March 6, 1819, the initial steps in its organization has taken place some time in December of the preceding year. In that month a number of the Masons, residents of Xenia and the surrounding community, decided to apply for a charter and the records of the grand lodge show that on December 31, 1818, a petition was presented to the grand lodge at Columbus signed by a group of seven Greene county Masons, Joshua Martin, William F. Elkins, John Smith, Amasa Read, Abner Read, Orestus Roberts and Caleb West. The grand lodge on the last day of 1818 granted a dispensation to these petitioners, the dispensation bearing the signature of Chester Griswold, grand master of the state of Ohio. Pursuant to the authority granted by the dispensation the local lodge met and organized on March 6, 1819, with the following officers: Joshua Martin, worshipful master; John Smith, senior warden; Caleb West, junior warden; Abner Read, secretary; Amasa Read, senior deacon; John Martin, junior deacon; John Houghton, tyler. It was not until December 19, 1819, that the grand lodge of the state issued the charter under which the lodge still works. This charter bears the signature of A. McDowell, senior grand warden; Joseph Vance, junior grand warden; Benjamin Gardiner, grand secretary; John Snow, grand master.

A complete history of the lodge can never be written, owing to the fact that on January 23, 1882, the building then occupied by the lodge was completely destroyed by fire, the lodge losing all of its property, paraphernalia and records. From various sources, including a brief history of the lodge compiled in 1897 by a committee appointed for the purpose, the facts contained in the present article have been compiled. The first work of the lodge bears the date of April 11, 1819, at which time Clark Williams was initiated as an entered apprentice. The lodge grew in membership and influence from year to year until the famous Morgan episode happened. The history of the Anti-Masonic movement in the United States is a part of the history of our country, a movement which developed a political significance resulting in several states having a so-called Anti-Masonic party, with candidates for state and county offices. The climax of the movement came when it actually proposed a candidate for President of the United States in 1831. The Xenia lodge was one of the thousands of local lodges throughout the United States that was compelled to suspend its activities for a time. It appears from the best authority that the local lodge suspended its regular sessions with the

meeting of March 26, 1831, and that it did not again meet in regular session for more than fifteen years. At least the next record of a meeting in Xenia is dated August 13, 1846.

It will probably never be known what the local lodge did during this fifteen years. There are well-authenticated records that meetings were held, however, from time to time, irregular though they must have been, at the home of Abner Read in Oldtown. Read was a merchant in that village, and, it is known, was also engaged in the manufacture of large wall clocks. He was a twin brother of Amasa Read, both brothers being charter members of the lodge. There were a number of brethren who, from every indication, must have been received into the lodge during this period from 1831 to 1846, and it is more than likely that they were given the work in the second story of Read's house in Oldtown. Among the number who are thought to have been received during this period are the following: Abraham Hivling, William E. Stark, William Bell, Hiram Brown, Adam Hupp, M. Chambers, Simon Dunn, John A. Gowdy, John A. Hivling, J. M. Collier, Charles Anthony, George Champley and Andrew Ream. The first worshipful master to appear in 1846 after the resumption of labor was John Hivling, and it is presumed that he was one of the number received into the lodge during this hiatus in its history.

With the resumption of the work of the lodge in 1846 there was a great revival of interest. It is interesting to note that the first work done after the lodge again resumed labor, September 9, 1846, was to confer the master Mason's degree upon Henry Kealhofter, who had received the first two degrees in March, 1831, and now, fifteen years later, received the third and last degree of the blue lodge. About this time, a special convocation was held in Xenia, which lasted from high twelve, Monday, to high twelve, Saturday, of the same week. The Hon. Thomas Corwin, of Lebanon, presided during the week as worshipful master. During the week no fewer than seventeen candidates were entered, passed and raised, several being from Waynesville, Lebanon and Wilmington. Such a week Masonry has not since known in Greene county.

Nearly three-quarters of a century have now elapsed since the Xenia lodge resumed its work, and these years have seen other lodges organized in the county, the local lodge having contributed of its membership to their respective lists of charter members. The charter members of the lodges at Jamestown, Yellow Springs, New Burlington and Cedarville were in many cases members of the Xenia lodge. Other branches of Masonry have been established in Xenia, all of which owe their existence to this parent lodge. Scores of members of Xenia Lodge No. 49 have been found in places of public trust and honor. Its sons have been seen in the General Assembly of the state,



in the halls of Congress, on the judicial bench, and within the sacred walls of the church. They have been prominent in all the various phases of the life of the community, and wherever found they have tried to live up to the high teachings of the oldest fraternal organization in the world.

The lodge has had its quarters in the Steele building at the northwest corner of Detroit and Main streets since the latter part of 1896. It occupies the fourth and fifth floors of this building and has its quarters fitted up in a sumptuous manner. When it became known that the local lodge would be ready in the winter of 1896 to occupy its new home, it extended an invitation to the grand lodge of the state to be present at its dedicatory services. Accordingly, the grand lodge of the state of Ohio convened in emergent session for the purpose of dedicating the new rooms of the local lodge on Monday, December 28, 1896 (A. L. 5896), in a room adjacent to that of Xenia Lodge No. 49, with the following officers in their respective stations: Eber Reynolds, R. W. D. G. M.; George Galloway, R. W. D. G. S. W.; William E. Carr, R. W. D. G. J. W.; Henry H. Eavey, R. W. D. G. Treasurer; John A. Harned, R. W. D. G. Secretary; John H. Wolford, R. W. D. G. S. D.; George K. Halliday, R. W. D. G. J. D.; John J. McCabe, R. W. D. G. Chaplain; Lewis H. Whiteman, R. W. D. Grand Marshal; C. P. Wright, D. G. S. S.; Clark Galloway, D. J. J. S.; Jacob Randall, Grand Tyler. After the craft had been called to order, a procession was formed and proceeded to the new lodge room where the dedicatory services were fittingly observed in due form. A large number of visiting Masons were present from Dayton, Yellow Springs, Jamestown, Waynesville and New Burlington. In the evening of the same day an entertainment was given by the local lodge in their new quarters. Two hundred and nine guests were present and were well entertained. The worshipful master, Mansel J. Hartley, then read a history of the local lodge, the same from which the main facts of this present article are taken.

*Worshipful Masters.*—Wm. F. Elkin (under dispensation), 1819; Abner Reed, 1820; John Smith, 1821; William Ellsberry, 1822-24; 1826-29, 1850; John Hivling, 1823, 1825, 1831-32, 1846-49, 1852; Joshua Martin, 1830; David Medsker, 1851, 1854, 1857, 1859, 1862, 1864-65; John A. Hivling, 1853; William E. Morris, 1855-56; Lewis Wright, 1861; Abel Clark, 1866-67; Luther Nichols, 1868; William H. Harry, 1869-70, 1872; William D. Pettigrew, 1871; Lewis H. Whiteman, 1873, 1878-79, 1900-01; Samuel D. Cosner, 1874-77; Cummins B. Jones, 1880-81; John W. Nichols, 1882-86; Theodore A. Fravel, 1887-90; Horace L. Smith, 1891; Enoch P. Hooven, 1892; George Galloway, 1893; Eber Reynolds, 1894; John W. Greene, 1895; Mansel J. Hartley, 1896-99; Orin C. Baker, 1902-03; William L. Miller, 1904; Charles S. Johnson, 1905-06; Edwin B. Cox, 1907; J. Thorb Charters, 1908-09; Fred B. Smith, 1910; Paul B. Yockey, 1911; Thomas J. Kennedy, 1912-

13; William Maxwell, 1914; Albert J. Taylor, 1915; John A. Simison, 1916; John H. Shadrach, 1917; Charles L. Babb, 1918.

The lodge had a membership of three hundred and eighty-three at the beginning of 1918. The officers for the current year are as follows: Charles L. Babb, worshipful master; William E. Swabb, senior warden; Amos E. Faulkner, junior warden; Henry H. Eavey, treasurer; John H. Whitmer, secretary; John W. Gardner, Sr., senior deacon; Andrew J. Wilson, junior deacon; James H. Matthews, tyler; Rev. Hobbard J. Jewett, chaplain; Lewis H. Whiteman, master of ceremonies; David L. Crawford, senior steward; Charles B. Cross, junior steward; John A. Simison, Albert J. Taylor and J. Thorb Charters, trustees.

#### WARNER LODGE NO. 410, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

The second Masonic lodge organized in Xenia came into existence on October 21, 1868, as the result of a petition to and a dispensation from the grand lodge of the state of Ohio. The charter members were W. M. North, Dr. E. P. Hooven, J. H. Matthews, R. H. King, S. J. Ridenour, C. W. Newton, J. M. Thirkield, J. H. Sharp and F. M. Shipley. All the charter members had been members of Xenia Lodge No. 49, and all are now deceased except Doctor Hooven and J. H. Matthews. The lodge grew slowly until it had about seventy members, but after it was burned out January 23, 1882, it ceased to exist and was taken back as a body in the parent lodge.

#### XENIA CHAPTER NO. 36, ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Xenia Chapter No. 36, Royal Arch Masons, was chartered on September 29, 1848, with the following charter members: Lewis Wright, David Medsker, William Morris, John A. Hivling, Joshua Martin, James J. Winans, Brinton Baker, Aniel Rodgers, William Ellsberry, Samuel Harry and Zenas Harlan. Lewis Wright was the first M. E. H. P.; David Medsker, M. E. King; and William Morris, M. E. Scribe. The organization of the chapter was effected two years after the lodge resumed labor after the suspension of fifteen years on account of the Anti-Masonic movement. The officers of the chapter for 1918 are as follow: John A. Simison, most excellent high priest; Lewis H. Whiteman, excellent king; Leroy Brower, excellent scribe; Charles L. Babb, captain of the host; Leon Reed, principal sojourner; Roy C. Hayward, royal arch captain; Henry H. Eavey, treasurer; John H. Whitmer, secretary; Simeon H. Deacon, grand master of the third veil; Holmes Norris, grand master of the second veil; John W. Gardner, Sr., grand master of the first veil; James H. Matthews, guard; Asa C. Messenger, chaplain; J. H. Matthews and Jacob Kany, stewards; William Maxwell, Charles S. Johnson and John H. Shadrach, trustees. The present membership is one hundred and sixty-five.

## WRIGHT COUNCIL NO. 53 AND NO. 96, ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

Wright Council No. 53, Royal and Select Masters, Xenia, was chartered on October 29, 1867, following a dispensation granted on October 14, 1867. The charter members were William M. North, Enoch P. Hooven, J. M. Thirkield, Samuel J. Warner, David Medsker, John R. Goudy, W. D. Pettigrew, Brinton Baker and Lewis H. Whiteman. The first meeting was held in November 11, 1867, at which time the following officers were elected: William M. North, thrice illustrious master; Brinton Baker, deputy illustrious grand master; William D. Pettigrew, principal conductor of the work; James M. Thirkield, captain of the guard; Enoch P. Hooven, recorder; David Medsker, treasurer; Lewis H. Whiteman, sentinel.

The council held regular meetings until its records were destroyed by the destructive fire of January 23, 1882, the fire which destroyed all of the Masonic records, paraphernalia, and property of the Xenia lodge. The last meeting of the council before the fire was held on December 10, 1881. With the loss of the records the members of the council decided to surrender their charter, and devoted all their time and attention to the blue lodge and chapter. It was not until 1906 that the Masons of Xenia again established the council in the city, adopting the name of Wright Council No. 96, Royal and Select Masters, chartered on October 2, 1908, following a dispensation granted on March 29, 1906, by William A. Spill, most illustrious grand master. The first officers were: Lewis H. Whiteman, Eber Reynolds, George C. Barns, Edwin B. Cox, Watkins Frame, J. Thorb Charters, Samuel M. McKay, Paul B. Yockey and James H. Matthews. The officers for the present year are William Maxwell, thrice illustrious master; Albert J. Taylor, deputy illustrious master; Leroy Brower, principal conductor of the work; Eber Reynolds, treasurer; John H. Whitmer, recorder; Simeon H. Deacon, captain of the guard; Leon Reed, conductor of the council; Watkins Frame, steward; J. H. Matthews, sentinel; Asa C. Messenger, chaplain; Charles S. Johnson, Thomas J. Kennedy and John A. Simison, trustees. The council now has a membership of one hundred and thirty-six.

## JAMESTOWN LODGE NO. 352, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

Jamestown Lodge No. 352, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered on October 18, 1865, with the following charter members: J. W. Pulliam, M. O. Adams, G. W. Wright, J. T. Houston, H. H. Gibney, E. Doherty, A. D. Dowden and J. R. Kendall. The first officers included the following: J. W. Pulliam, worshipful master; A. D. Dowden, senior warden; M. O. Adams, junior warden; J. T. Houston, treasurer; D. N. Foreman, secretary; J. R. Kendall, senior deacon; Samuel Zortman, junior deacon; John

Zeiner, tyler. The lodge owns the second floor of the Adams store building, where it has well-appointed quarters for the work of the lodge. The order expended approximately three thousand dollars for its share of the building. The present officers are Frank Johnson, worshipful master; H. L. Bowermeister, senior warden; H. C. Fisher, junior warden; M. T. McCreight, treasurer; J. D. King, secretary; Otto Thorpe, senior deacon; J. Leroy Spahr, junior deacon; F. W. Ogan, tyler; C. E. Thuma, master of ceremonies; J. H. Sanders, L. C. Walker and J. H. Perry, trustees; C. E. Thuma and C. E. Ream, grievance committee; R. H. Glass and J. H. Perry, stewards. The past masters of the lodge are J. W. Pulliam, J. T. Houston, John Zeiner, G. E. Bailey, D. M. Shrack, W. F. McMillan, F. W. Alden, J. B. Christopher, W. H. Blair, L. C. Walker, W. A. Paxson, M. J. Flannery, Frank McGuire, R. W. Christy, Charles Clark, H. K. Laird, C. E. Thuma, Frank Shigley, F. W. Ogan, J. D. King, R. H. Glass, C. E. Gerard, J. H. Perry, L. W. Dunham, G. K. Dennis and Otto Thorpe. The present membership is ninety.

YELLOW SPRINGS LODGE NO. 421, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

Yellow Springs Lodge No. 421, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered on October 21, 1868, the same date on which Warner Lodge of Xenia was chartered. The charter members were Harvey Vinal, Oliver A. Roberts, John F. Owen, A. E. Duncan, Charles Ridgway, William M. Haffner, T. C. Hirst, Henry Adler, E. M. Howell and Robert V. B. Christy. One of these charter members, T. C. Hirst, is still living. The first officers were as follow: Harvey Vinal, worshipful master; Oliver A. Roberts, senior warden; John F. Owen, junior warden; Charles Ridgway, treasurer; William M. Haffner, secretary; T. C. Hirst, senior deacon; Henry Adler, junior deacon; E. M. Howell, tyler. The lodge owns a two-story brick building on the west side of Xenia avenue between Corry and Short streets. The masters of the lodge since 1868 in the order of their succession are as follow: Harvey Vinal, W. G. Whitehurst, C. P. Hart, William Protzman, T. C. Hirst, A. F. Hopkins, J. M. Harris, T. B. Jobe, F. W. Miller, J. J. Hirst, W. E. Carr, W. H. Humphrey, B. F. Hoagland, W. A. Shroufe, J. E. Dale, C. E. Emerick, O. P. Hendrixson, Milton Shaw, L. H. Braley, L. H. Jones, A. F. Shoemaker, H. E. Tucker, A. W. Humphrey, P. M. Stewart, Thad P. Carr, J. H. Harris, R. O. Wead, J. M. Fawcett, J. H. Birch, C. W. Figgins and W. E. Littleton. The lodge now has a membership of one hundred and fourteen. The officers for 1918 are as follow: W. A. Layton, worshipful master; C. M. Preston, senior warden; W. B. Corry, junior warden; G. F. Littleton, treasurer; C. H. Ellis, secretary; E. H. Beard, senior deacon; L. O. Reed, junior deacon; John P. Confer, tyler; T. C.

Hirst, chaplain; R. O. Wead, senior steward; W. E. Littleton, junior steward; W. E. Littleton, acting past master; L. H. Jones, T. P. Carr and P. M. Stewart, trustees.

NEW BURLINGTON LODGE NO. 574, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

New Burlington Lodge No. 574, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered on October 24, 1895, with G. Marion Colvin as the first worshipful master. The lodge has enjoyed a steady growth during the twenty-three years of its existence and now has a membership of sixty-eight. The past masters of the lodge are G. Marion Colvin, S. D. Chancellor, Frank S. Colvin, Harry B. Reeves, Charles E. Harrison, Joel Allen Fletcher, Welden N. McKay, Trevor C. Haydock, Burwell H. Miller, Clarence H. McKay and William A. Sayers. The officers for 1918 include the following: Robert D. Collett, worshipful master; Emanuel M. Copsey, senior warden; Homer J. Lundy, junior warden; Welden N. McKay, treasurer; Burwell H. Miller, secretary; Orville C. Colvin, senior deacon; Byron L. Adams, junior deacon; George A. Phillips, tyler; Charles H. Dill, senior steward; John W. Powell, junior steward; Thomas C. Haydock, Ellis W. Bradstreet and Trever C. Haydock, trustees.

· CEDARVILLE LODGE NO. 622, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

Cedarville Lodge No. 622, Free and Accepted Masons, the youngest Masonic lodge in the county, was chartered on October 23, 1913, with Charles Gilbert as the first worshipful master. The lodge already has an active membership of thirty-seven. At the time of its last report for the year 1918, it reported three of its members in the service of the United States in some branch of the military service, Birdsell Creswell, J. Herman Randall and John N. Townsley. The past masters of the lodge have been Charles Gilbert, C. W. Mott, D. B. McElwain and Ralph Wolford. The officers for 1918 are as follow: Lee Anderson, worshipful master; L. H. Sullenberger, senior warden; A. E. Richards, junior warden; D. B. McElwain, treasurer; L. D. Parker, secretary; Charles Graham, senior deacon; J. E. Post, junior deacon; Hugh M. Stormont, tyler; C. W. Mott, W. L. Clemans, and J. W. Radabaugh, trustees.

GOLDEN RULE LODGE NO. 31, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

The first Masonic lodge in Greene county to surrender its charter was the one established at Fairfield more than a hundred years ago. It was in 1817 that the lodge was instituted in the village under the name of Golden Rule Lodge No. 31, the lodge antedating the one established at Xenia by a couple of years. The lodge maintained a more or less regular

career until 1833 when it was found necessary because of the prevalence of the anti-Masonic feeling then raging throughout the country, to suspend the lodge. It was never reopened.

ALDORA CHAPTER NO. 262, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR.

Aldora Chapter No. 262, Order of the Eastern Star, at Xenia, was instituted on February 21, 1907, with the following charter members: E. B. Cox, J. W. Gardner, Sr., C. W. Gard, A. J. Taylor, H. H. Thrall, L. H. Whiteman, C. C. Harris, C. W. Fisher, C. Davis, C. Breiel, W. S. MacAaron, E. Reynolds, J. T. Charters, C. H. M. Casad, W. S. Kennon, J. G. Mitchell, W. C. White, R. Weber, H. H. Conklin, F. Alexander, S. Shumaker, F. W. Sanderson, K. S. Fawcett, A. J. Hiller, Mary Andrew, Mary E. Cox, Perl Charters, Minnie Davis, Carrie Gardner, Bertha Gardner, Cora Gard, May H. Watson, Cora K. Maxey, Magdalena Kany, Anna Mautz, Edith Marshall, Imo Marshall, Martha Mitchell, Augusta Shumaker, Frances Sanderson, Minnie Swabb, Allie Taylor, Mary W. Thrall, Georgia Wead, Lydia Whiteman, Callie White, Minnie Henrie, Marguerite H. John, Kate Fisher, Catherine Breiel, Ada MacAaron, Nannie B. Reynolds, Hannah M. Taylor, Ida Casad, Mary L. Kennon, Kathrine Jeffrys, Lizzie Weber, Maggie Page, Laura Alexander, Edith C. Fawcett, Ada M. Hebble and Elizabeth Hiller. The first officers of the chapter were as follow: Worthy matron, Augusta Shumaker; worthy patron, L. H. Whiteman; associate matron, Anna Mautz; secretary, Edith Marshall; treasurer, Carrie Gardner; conductor, Frances Sanderson; associate conductor, Imo Marshall; Adah, Bertha Gardner; Ruth, Minnie Swabb; Esther, Cora Gard; Martha, Mary Andrew; Electa, Minnie Davis; marshals, Magdalena Kany and Cora Krise; warder, Martha Mitchell; sentinel, J. W. Gardner, Sr.; chaplain, Mary W. Thrall; organist, Allie Taylor. The officers for the lodge in 1918 are as follow: Imo Marshall, worthy matron; Lester Barnes, worthy patron; Hazel Fisher, associate matron; Edith Marshall, secretary; Augusta Shumaker, treasurer; Olive Barnes, conductor; Jessie Lynn, associate conductor; Bertha Lawson, Adah; Opal Barnes, Ruth; Bertha Gardner, Esther; Maggie Page, Electa; Allora McCoy, marshal; George Page, sentinel; Maude Miller, chaplain; Alice Regan, warder; Minnie E. Wilkins, organist. The present membership is one hundred and thirty-eight.

JAMESTOWN CHAPTER NO. 141, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR.

This chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star was organized on June 18, 1901, with the following charter members: Mary G. Christopher, Irene McCreight, Lucina Ensign, Cora Paxson, Bessie Robinson, Alma Laird, Gertrude Taylor, Nora Carpenter, Belle Neiberger, Lou P. Davis, Ellen

Walker, Bessie Walker, Dr. L. C. Walker, J. B. Christopher, Jesse Taylor, M. T. McCreight, W. A. Paxson, J. L. Ginn, Frank Shigley and Margaret Sharpe. The first officers were as follows: Worthy matron, Mary G. Christopher; worthy patron, Dr. L. C. Walker; associate matron, Gertrude Taylor; secretary, Lou P. Davis; treasurer, Irene McCreight; warder, Emma Ginn; sentinel, Herbert K. Laird. The officers for 1918 are as follows: Ethel Sheley, worthy matron; Herbert Fisher, worthy patron; Mrs. Stella Gerard, associate matron; Mrs. Stella Barnett, secretary; Mrs. Clara McDorman, treasurer; Mrs. Bessie Thorpe, conductor; Bulah Cooper, associate conductor; Mrs. Marie Glass, Adah; Mrs. Louella Long, Ruth; Mrs. Stella Zimmerman, Esther; Mrs. Bertha Thuma, Martha; Mrs. Bessie Robinson, Electa; Mrs. Ila Perry, chaplain; Mrs. Ada Fisher, marshal; Mrs. Lona McDorman, organist; Mrs. Rose Zeiner, warder; Ernest Thuma, sentinel. The present membership is fifty-three.

NEW BURLINGTON CHAPTER NO. 363, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR.

This chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star was organized on August 5, 1913, with the following charter members: Sara M. Smith, Robert D. Collett, Zella M. Smith, Nellie C. Lackey, Virginia McGee, Ada McKay, Mary Collett, Jennie M. Reeves, Margaret Collett, Anne R. Collett, Mary F. McKay, Lydia Powell, Sarah Shambaugh, Sara Haydock, Thomas C. Haydock, Margaret Haydock, Veird Phillips, George Phillips, Burwell H. Miller, Hattie Miller, Harley H. Smith, Wayne C. Smith and William C. Miller. The first officers of the chapter were as follow: Worthy matron, Sara M. Smith; worthy patron, Robert D. Collett; associate matron, Zella M. Smith; treasurer, Nellie C. Lackey; secretary, Virginia McGee; conductor, Ada McKay; assistant conductor, Mary Collett; marshal, Jennie M. Reeves; Adah, Margaret Collett; Ruth, Anne R. Collett; Esther, Mary F. McKay; Martha, Lydia Powell; Electa, Sarah Shambaugh; organist, Sara Haydock; chaplain, Margaret Haydock; warder, Veird Phillips; sentinel, George A. Phillips. The officers for 1918 are as follow: Mrs. Ada McKay, worthy matron; Harley Smith, worthy patron; Mary Collett, associate matron; Mrs. Zella Smith, secretary; Mrs. Lydia Powell, treasurer; Mrs. Veird Phillips, conductor; Mrs. Hattie Miller, associate conductor; Margaret Collett, Adah; Mrs. Anne R. Collett, Ruth; Mrs. Mary F. McKay, Esther; Mrs. Jennie M. Reeves, Martha; Mrs. Sara M. Smith, Electa; Mrs. Nettie M. Fulkerson, marshal; William A. Sayers, sentinel; Mrs. Margaret Haydock, chaplain; Mrs. Nellie C. Lackey, warder; Ruth Fulkerson, organist. The present membership is thirty-three.

XENIA LODGE NO. 52, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

This lodge was instituted on November 4, 1845, with the following charter members: William M. Stark, John W. Merrick, Peter Kepler, A. M. Stark,

C. Within, E. S. Nichols and S. L. P. Defries. The first noble grand was A. M. Stark; vice-grand, Cornelius Wilkens; secretary, W. M. Stark, and treasurer, E. S. Nichols. The present officers of the lodge are the following: Noble grand, A. W. Haines; vice-grand, P. C. Bankard; recording secretary, W. H. Street; financial secretary, Wilson Davis; treasurer, U. E. Clark; trustees, Charles Dill, A. E. Faulkner and Frank Hupman. The meetings of Xenia lodge are held in rented rooms in the Allen building at the corner of Detroit and Main streets.

TABOR LODGE NO. 315, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

This lodge was instituted at Xenia on June 11, 1857, with the following charter members: W. C. M. Baker, B. R. Foreman, F. E. Hubbard, F. A. Floyd, J. N. Newkirk and Levi Rader. It grew rapidly in numbers and influence, but on account of so many of its members joining the Union army during the Civil War it was compelled to surrender its charter, but was reinstated on August 26, 1871, by John T. Hogue, J. H. Camper, D. G. Martin, R. Partington and Levi Rader and has ever since maintained an active organization. The lodge lost all its early records by fire some years ago. The present officers of the lodge are as follow: Noble grand, George Walsh; vice-grand, Oliver Randall; recording secretary, O. M. Whittington; financial secretary, B. F. Whittington; treasurer, S. G. Chambliss. The lodge holds its meetings in the lodge hall in the Kingsbury building on Detroit street, between Main and Second streets.

JAMESTOWN LODGE NO. 181, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

The Odd Fellows at Jamestown own their own lodge hall, a building located on the south side of East Main street, which they value at fifteen hundred dollars. Jamestown Lodge No. 181 was instituted on March 31, 1851, by Parker Browder, James M. Johnson, Samuel Hankins, John M. Syfers, Peter Dingess, Edward Wickersham and John W. Baker. The first officers of the lodge were as follow: Noble grand, Samuel Hankins; vice-grand, P. S. Browder; secretary, J. M. Johnson; treasurer, John W. Baker; conductor, J. A. Coburn; warden, Albert Scoffield; right supporter to the noble grand, Robert Cresley; left supporter, William Smith; right supporter to the vice-grand, David Giffens; left supporter, J. Wilkins; inside guard, J. A. Lewis. Following are the present officers of the lodge: Noble grand, Jesse Walthall; vice-grand, Arthur Gary; recording secretary, W. K. Sheflette; financial secretary, H. D. Buckles; treasurer, J. H. Parker; conductor, F. W. Ogan; warden, O. M. Conner; right supporter to the noble grand, A. C. Glass; left supporter, J. B. Murry; right supporter to the vice-grand, W. C. Thomas; left supporter, Charles Ellis; outside guard, John Bailey; inside guard, J. W. Shelly; chaplain, Frank Johnson.



## MAD RIVER LODGE NO. 243, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

The Odd Fellows at Fairfield own their own building, a combined business house and lodge building, located at the southwest corner of Dayton and Xenia streets. Mad River Lodge No. 243, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Fairfield, was instituted on February 23, 1854, H. E. Hebble, John Ashbaugh, John W. Williams, G. W. Baggot and H. P. Shaffer being the charter members of the same. Following were the first officers of the lodge: Noble grand, H. E. Hebble; vice-grand, H. P. Shaffer; treasurer, G. W. Baggot; secretary, John M. Williams. The present (1918) officers are as follows: Noble grand, John Esterline; vice-grand, J. B. Harner; treasurer, George H. Stiles; secretary, C. F. Snediker.

## YELLOW SPRINGS LODGE NO. 279, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

The Odd Fellows at Yellow Springs not only own their own lodge hall, a two-story frame building situated at the corner of Glen and Xenia streets, but a two-story brick building adjoining the same, and derive considerable revenue from the rentals received. Yellow Springs Lodge No. 279, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted on May 21, 1855, the charter members of the same being Peter Boyer, L. L. St. John, Benjamin Wood, Andrew Livingston, William Strasberger, Joshua Burley, John W. Hamilton, John D. Hawkins, Chris. Folkerth, A. J. Clawson, M. J. Ennis, George W. Shoup and W. K. Wolf. The first officers were Peter Boyer, L. L. St. John, Benjamin Wood, Andrew Livingston, William Strasberger and Joshua Burley. The present officers of the lodge are R. O. Wead, George W. Sroufe, G. F. Littleton, W. J. Currie, L. D. Welch and W. E. Littleton.

## SPRING VALLEY LODGE NO. 302, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

The Odd Fellows at Spring Valley own their own lodge building, a piece of property on Pike street valued at twenty-five hundred dollars. Spring Valley Lodge No. 302, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted on May 22, 1856, with the following charter members: C. A. Watson, W. C. Tharp, E. H. Swain, George C. Clark, R. W. Latcham, J. P. Sanders, Hiram Schnebley, James M. Porter, John W. McQuaid, William B. Rieg, C. D. Wooley, F. M. Moffitt and Peter Dehaven. The first officers of this lodge were the following: Noble grand, C. A. Watson; vice-grand, W. G. Tharp; secretary, E. H. Swain; treasurer, George C. Clark. Following are the present (1918) officers: Noble grand, J. O. Peterson; vice-grand, Earl Simison; recording secretary, E. M. Copsey; financial secretary, F. M. Hiatt; treasurer, W. E. Crites; trustees, C. H. Dill, J. W. Soward and Roy Starbuck.

## PHOENIX LODGE NO. 74, DAUGHTERS OF REBEKAH, AT XENIA.

This woman's auxiliary to Odd Fellowship in Xenia seems prophetically enough to have been named "Phoenix," for it literally has risen from the ashes, the lodge paraphernalia having been destroyed by fire at the time of the destruction of the Eavey building on February 3, 1908, all that was saved of the paraphernalia having been the silverware, which was stored in a corner of the top floor of the building and to the saving of which a fireman, Oliver W. Dice, who, by the way, also was an Odd Fellow, risked his life, being afterward made the recipient of a vote of thanks on the part of the lodge, which also presented him a box of cigars. Practically all the records of the lodge were destroyed at the same time and the charred fragments of what remained are carefully preserved as a memorial of the trying experience through which the lodge passed at the time of the fire. The lodge now holds its meetings in the lodge hall in the Allen building. Phoenix Lodge formerly was Vashti Lodge, under which latter name it was instituted on September 7, 1883, with the following charter members: Mrs. A. Sears, Mrs. David Helds, Mrs. S. J. Rader, Mrs. Bertha L. King, Mrs. A. J. Simms, Mrs. Calverton B. Watts, Mrs. N. C. Martin, Jacob Persinger, A. W. Sears, S. P. Riffell, William Galloway, J. B. Morris, George F. Watts, David Fields, W. M. King, L. G. Fessenden, A. J. Simms, William Rader and A. J. Archdeacon. The first officers of the lodge were the following: Noble grand, S. P. Riffell; vice-grand, Mrs. A. J. Simms; secretary, William H. King; treasurer, Mrs. J. A. Sears; trustees, George Watts, William Galloway and William H. King. For reasons not essential to this narrative, Vashti Lodge gradually declined in vigor and eventually surrendered its charter, but in June, 1895, was reinstated under the name of Phoenix Lodge No. 74 and has ever since enjoyed a thriving career, barring the incident of the destructive fire mentioned above. The charter members of the lodge at time of reinstatement were W. H. Simms, William Simms, William Wagner, David Johns, David Crow, Charles Casad, Lysander Peterson, Emma Simms, Bessie Simms, Helen Wagner, Jennie Johns, Ida Crow, Ida Casad, Ida Peterson, Sallie Clark, Sarah Gretzinger and Permelia Funderberg. The present (1918) officers of Phoenix lodge are: Noble grand, Grace Krautz; vice-grand, Lucy Haines; secretary, Viola Johnson; treasurer, Minnie Swabb; trustees, Elizabeth Bowser, Estella Ball and Nordice Snyder.

## IVANHOE LODGE NO. 56, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS, AT XENIA.

It was on July 25, 1873, that Ivanhoe Lodge No. 56, at Xenia, was instituted and it ever since has enjoyed a well-ordered growth. Meetings are held on Wednesday evening of each week in the building at the southwest corner of Detroit and Second streets. The charter members of Ivan-

hoe lodge were John D. Allen, A. H. Aubrey, L. M. Bates, A. L. De Camp, John E. Brown, Charles L. Darlington, William Dodds, A. M. Hoffman, E. P. Hooven, William Dunn, H. H. Hering, C. B. Jones, William Kershner, George W. Neville, Bernard Schlessinger, F. M. Tague, William Kealhofer, John W. Tresslar, Edward L. Wilson, J. Q. Wolf, L. H. Whiteman, A. L. Zimmerman and William H. Glotfelter. Following were the first officers of the lodge: Chancellor commander, John D. Allen; vice-chancellor, Charles L. Darlington; prelate, William Kealhofer; master of work, William Kershner; master at arms, L. H. Whiteman; inner guard, John W. Tressler; outer guard, A. L. Zimmerman; master of exchequer, E. P. Hooven; master of finance, A. M. Hoffman; keeper of records and seal, Bernard Schlessinger; trustees, George W. Neville, William Dunn and J. Q. Wolf. The present officers of the lodge are as follow: Chancellor commander, M. A. Yeager; vice-chancellor, J. E. McCreary; master of work, A. J. Wilson; master at arms, William B. Gregg; master of exchequer, D. E. Knisley; master of finance and keeper of records and seal, B. F. Thomas; inner guard, C. C. Henrie; outer guard, A. W. Tullis; trustees, Jacob Kany, George Haller and A. J. Wilson.

CLIFTON LODGE NO. 669, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

The Knights of Pythias at Clifton own their own lodge hall, a building valued at seventeen hundred dollars, and have been an active force in and about that village for nearly a quarter of a century. Clifton Lodge No. 669 was instituted on September 20, 1894, the following being the charter members of the lodge: J. E. Johnson, E. C. Corey, C. S. Hatfield, Marion Reese, W. D. Estle, Albert Sellers, E. J. Printz, C. E. Confarr, C. E. Speaks, D. A. Rupert, George Elder, C. F. Stewart, H. R. Towner, J. C. Littleton, W. B. Clark, E. W. Albin, C. E. Todd, S. S. Puckett, G. W. Stroufer, G. D. Vent, W. C. Stewart, D. L. Gram, J. B. Littleton, H. R. Estle, Sol. Wilson, J. W. Larkin, J. P. Allen, I. T. Confarr and J. W. Confarr. The first officers of the lodge were: Chancellor commander, S. S. Puckett; vice-chancellor, W. H. Page; prelate, D. E. Spahr; master at arms, W. B. Clark; master of exchequer, C. E. Todd; master of finance, C. E. Confarr; keeper of records and seal, C. E. Confarr; trustees, J. C. Littleton, C. E. Corey and George H. Smith. The present officers of the lodge are: Chancellor commander, W. D. Printz; vice-commander, W. A. Wright; prelate, Howard Adams; master of work, Charles McFarland; keeper of records and seal, C. E. Confarr; master of finance, H. B. Holsapple; master of exchequer, M. W. Ault; master at arms, Art Reed; inner guard, F. W. Dawson; outer guard, D. A. Findly.

## CYCLONE LODGE NO. 548, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS, AT JAMESTOWN.

Probably entertaining distinct recollections of the cyclone that devastated the village of Jamestown in 1884, when the men who organized the Knights of Pythias lodge in that town in 1892 came to pick out a name for their organization they gave to it the tempestuous name noted above. Cyclone lodge was organized on February 22, 1892, the charter members being W. T. McCreight, J. C. Toland, L. M. Jones, Frank McGuire, Levi Rader, L. C. Walker, George A. McLaughlin, C. C. Hosier, S. W. Davis, William Sheley, M. Eisenman, A. T. Gross, G. W. Shickley, C. Rigglin, John Bailey, S. T. Baker, A. Whittington and C. H. Jenkins. Lodge meetings are held in the hall over the Jenkins & Turnbull grocery store on West Main street. The first officers of Cyclone lodge were as follow: Past chancellor, M. T. McCreight; chancellor commander, J. C. Toland; vice-chancellor, Dr. L. M. Jones; prelate, Levi Rader; keeper of records and seal, George A. McLaughlin; master of exchequer, Dr. L. C. Walker; master of finance, C. C. Hosier; master at arms, Frank McGuire; inner guard, William Sheley; outer guard, M. Eisenman. The present officers of the lodge are: Chancellor commander, David Venard; vice-chancellor, Alf. Skyles; prelate, Benjamin Treftz; master of work, Al. Zeiner; keeper of records and seal, H. D. Buckles; master of finance, J. H. Parker; master of exchequer, W. A. Thomas; master at arms, C. W. Barker; inner guard, Roy Cline; outer guard, C. E. Moorman.

## OSBORN LODGE NO. 379, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

The Knights of Pythias at Osborn meet in a rented hall and in view of the probable early abandonment of that village in accordance with the plans of the flood-prevention commission the lodge has no intention of building. Osborn Lodge No. 379, Knights of Pythias, was instituted on September 13, 1889, the charter members of the same being J. H. Barkman, M. L. Finnell, O. M. Marquart, Frank Vaughn, John Trout, Jr., C. K. Hershey, F. A. Tranchant, C. C. Jackson, Dayton Kneisley, J. H. Helser, David Auten, Thomas C. Auten, John Stull, O. E. Swadner, James Spangler, William Hostetter, B. W. Sawdey, J. C. Worley, C. S. Broadwell, J. M. Sheetz, J. R. Hardman, William Bryan, F. N. Neff, C. E. Miller, Jacob Shatz, Amos Brehm, R. P. Emmick, L. C. Mitman, J. J. Tranchant, Jr., Z. T. Hebble, D. B. Orum, O. B. Kauffman, E. E. Shartle, C. M. Hardman, L. F. Creamer, John A. Kneisley, Charles Hammond, J. A. Miller, Charles Miller, L. C. Emmick, Fred Steffen, W. B. Morrison, Frank Reel and Emanuel Hamm. Following is a list of the first officers of the lodge: Chancellor commander, M. L. Fennell; vice-chancellor; prelate, A. L. H. Miller; keeper of records

and seal, C. K. Hershey; master at arms, John Trout, Jr., master of exchequer, C. C. Jackson; master of finance, F. A. Tranchant; inner guard, Dayton Kneisley; outer guard, J. H. Helser. The present (1918) members of the lodge are as follows: Chancellor commander, O. B. Kauffman; vice-chancellor, W. J. Morris; prelate, N. S. Auten; master of work, C. C. Barkman; keeper of records and seal, J. E. Heedwohl; master at arms, J. A. Miller; master of exchequer, O. P. Mitman; master of finance, Z. T. Hebble; inner guard, Elwood Dunkle; outer guard, W. A. Wiles.

#### IMPROVED ORDER OF RED MEN AT XENIA.

The present tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men at Xenia, known as Wahoo Tribe No. 41, is a consolidation of the old Wahoo tribe and the tribe that later was organized in the city and which was known as Red Jacket Tribe No. 118, the consolidation of the two tribes having been effected on the night of October 5, 1916, according to the laws of the great council of Ohio, by J. Brownschweiger, great sachem of the great council of the state, the following officers being installed at that time: Prophet, William Bath; sachem, Daniel A. Smith; senior sagamore, Harry Shoemaker; junior sagamore, Benjamin Jackson; chief of records, S. C. Coates; keeper of wampum, John Shoemaker; trustees, W. C. Bloom, Thomas Heathcook and William Bath. The present officers of the tribe are as follow: Prophet, A. C. Sherman; sachem, Edward Burtis; senior sagamore, Orville Tucker; junior sagamore, Benjamin Eckerle; chief of records, S. C. Coates; keeper of wampum, John Shoemaker; trustees, Samuel Sunkel, Thomas Heathcook and William Bath. Old Wahoo Tribe No. 41 was organized on October 29, 1868, by W. Bloom, B. Schlesinger, Paul Weisse, Paul Fetz, John Sanz, George Grauer, J. C. Feurle, Andrew Fisher, George Fisher, Martin Schledt, Henry Eichman, Henry Sonderman and Fred Huehne, of whom three, W. Bloom, B. Schlesinger and Paul Weisse, are still active members of the tribe. Wahoo tribe's charter members were German-speaking and the meetings were conducted in the German language until 1911, when the German rituals were exchanged for those printed in English. In the meantime, Thursday, May 22, 1889, there was organized at Xenia another tribe of Red Men, Red Jacket Tribe No. 118, the following being charter members of the same: M. A. Broadstone, W. C. Bloom, Daniel A. Smith, Charles W. Whitmer, John Boots, H. C. Armstrong, H. Grottendick, William Dodds, Ed. Snell, John A. Fifer, Ed. A. Sanz, Adam Boots, Charles Phillips, George Sanz, William Ellsberry, Wesley Owens, H. P. Lindsay, John A. Cisco, G. W. Jones, W. A. Simons, John Thomas, Harlan Powers, L. E. Spahr, William A. Richardson, H. C. Long, S. R. Bales, John R. Sut-

ton, Reuben Canady, J. A. Carey, A. H. Spahr, W. A. Labron, Frank Smith, Coleman Heaton, Martin Ullery, C. F. Cretors, Samuel Rader, Clint Rader, Walter Campion and M. A. Walton. The first officers of Red Jacket lodge were: Prophet, John Boots; sachem, H. C. Armstrong; senior sagamore, M. A. Broadstone; junior sagamore, Daniel A. Smith; chief of records, Charles W. Whitmer; trustees, George Sanz, H. Grottendick and Coleman Heaton. Years afterward the members of the two tribes began to realize that the "hunting grounds" of Xenia in the "reservation" of Ohio were not large enough to support two tribes and the consolidation above referred to was effected in the fall of 1916, the name of the tribe first on the "hunting ground," "Wahoo," being preserved. This tribe meets every Thursday night in the little building at the northwest corner of Main and Whiteman streets.

ZANETTA COUNCIL NO. 120, DEGREE OF POCAHONTAS.

This woman's auxiliary to the local tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men at Xenia was organized on April 11, 1908, with the following charter members: O. H. Simons, Mrs. M. C. Simons, Charles Howell, Mrs. Clara Howell, Frank Spahr, Mrs. Loretta Spahr, E. L. Hegler, Ella Hegler, D. A. Smith, Mrs. Claretta Smith, Mrs. O. R. Stolzman, W. R. Shirk, Perry Shafer, Elizabeth Shafer, Joseph Bales, Mrs. Joseph Bales, John Humston, Harriet Humston, Simeon Coates, Leola Coates, M. A. Hagler, Mrs. M. A. Hagler, Mrs. Willetta Huffman, H. E. Milburn, A. J. Richardson, Marion Kester, Mrs. Nettie Kester, Charles Johns, Blanche Johns, Adam Boots, John M. Boots, Lewis Wagner, Anna Wagner, William Blake, Ella Blake, William Burba, Mary Burba, Frank Buck, William Barnett, Mrs. William Barnett, Mrs. Elmer Harvey, Josie Seldomrich, Mrs. Alice Howell, Joseph Levalley, Mrs. Elizabeth Levally, Minnie Rockfield, Ida Angle, Raper Hite, Mary L. Hite, Sarah Cultice, Rosetta Cultice, Grant Cultice, Jacob Fudge, Levana Fudge, Cora Shirk, Samuel Hyman, Eliza Phillips, J. W. Baumaster, Sarah Baumaster, Samuel Gunkle, Charles Sutton, Mary Sutton, Bettie Harris, Minetta Craft, Clark Young, Ida Cultice, A. C. Sherman, Bertha Palmer, all of which number are still living save seven. The first officers of Zanetta council were the following: Pocahontas, Margaret Stolzman; Winona, Loretta Spahr; Powhattan, Simeon Coates; prophetess, Ella Hagler; keeper of records, Leola Coates; keeper of wampum, Josie Seldomrich; trustees, Ella Blake, Nettie Kester and Willetta Huffman. The council holds its meetings in the Red Men's hall at the corner of Main and Whiteman streets. The present officers of the council are: Pocahontas, Jane Sanders; Winona, Mary Ary; Powhattan, Thomas Heathcook; prophetess, Cora Levalley; keeper of records, Ella Blake; keeper of wampum, Verna Smith; trustees, Opal Owens, Clara Ary and Francis Ary.

## JUNIOR ORDER OF UNITED AMERICAN MECHANICS.

Xenia Council No. 67, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, was organized on July 3, 1897, and holds its meetings in Kingsbury Hall on South Detroit street. The charter members of this council were F. P. Baldure, A. C. Messenger, G. M. Bickett, C. E. Wright, William Scott, George H. Smith, Ed Lighthiser, O. M. Rowe, O. Parker, James Scott, F. R. Voris, W. A. Soos, Charles Casad, George Swartz, Ben Chambliss, Henry Fenker, Richard Anderson, James Wead, T. C. Owens, Frank Poland and George Bodecker. Following is a list of the first officers of this council: Past councilor, Charles Casad; councilor, F. P. Baldure; vice-councilor, William Scott; recording secretary, Frank Zartman; assistant recording secretary, C. E. Wright; financial secretary, Richard Anderson; treasurer, F. R. Voris; conductor, Ed Lighthiser; warder, George H. Smith; inside sentinel, George Swartz; outside sentinel, George M. Beckett; trustees, C. E. Wright, James W. Scott and J. B. Wead; representative to the state council, Charles Casad. The present officers of the council are: Past councilor, Albert Tucker; councilor, William Oran; vice-councilor, Wilbur Chambliss; recording secretary, George H. Smith; assistant recording secretary, Frank Sheets; financial secretary, George P. Tiffany; treasurer, Theron A. White; conductor, William Bath; warder, Frank Chambliss; inside sentinel, Clarence Bath; outside sentinel, Elmer Brewer; trustees, Frank Sheets, John Kester and M. E. Coulter; representative to the state council, George H. Smith.

## COUNCIL OF THE JUNIOR ORDER AT BELLBROOK.

Magnetic Council No. 231, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, at Bellbrook, owns its own building, in which it holds its meetings, at the northeast corner of Main and Franklin streets, the property being valued at twenty-five hundred dollars. This council was instituted on May 16, 1896, the charter carrying the names of the following original members: A. R. Howland, G. C. Hook, G. H. Lamb, J. H. Racer, T. H. Swaney, James Crowl, C. E. Belt, E. T. Buckles, G. W. Miller, Harry Myers, J. L. Myers, Ellis Rosel, Charles Myers, W. Lansinger, Walt Whitacre, Charles T. Moore, M. R. Stover, S. J. Detrick, A. S. Rosel, F. W. Dinwiddie, Henry Weller, A. H. Davis, John Wilson, J. F. Newland, C. C. Schulz, Charles Wilson, J. A. Spitler, B. M. Spitler, J. H. Lansinger, J. T. Finley, Wilford Elliott, C. F. Gibbons, J. P. Snyder, J. A. Carey, E. W. Hopkins, John Billett, J. B. Taylor, H. E. Hurley, C. F. Mills, A. L. Swallow, Harry McGinnis, W. C. Morris and W. Berryhill. The first officers of this council were the following: Councilor, A. R. Howland; vice-councilor, G. W. Miller; recording secretary, J. H. Lansinger; financial secretary, F. W. Dinwiddie; treasurer, James Crowe; junior past councillor, M. R. Stover; trustees, A. R. Howland, G. W. Miller

and John Billett. The present trustees of the council are J. H. Wright, J. R. Weaver and F. Wardlow, the other officers being as follows: Junior past councilor, Wilford Swigart; councilor, Joseph Guenther; vice-councilor, William Jobe; recording secretary, A. R. Howland; financial secretary, F. W. Dinwiddie; treasurer, James Crowl; chaplain, Jesse Folkerth.

#### THE JUNIOR ORDER COUNCIL AT YELLOW SPRINGS.

Bright Star Council No. 97, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, at Yellow Springs, holds its meetings in a rented room in the DeNormandie building on Xenia avenue, in that village. This council was organized on April 25, 1900, with the following charter membership: D. A. Brewer, E. M. Young, John Esterline, W. C. Michaels, J. P. Funderberg, I. K. Warner, J. C. Boolman, J. E. Bailey, A. F. Pultz, E. T. Bailey, O. C. Wike, William Shafer, Lewis Shafer, J. C. Sparrow, Leander Wike, C. M. Layton, Harry Rupert, D. A. Rupert, C. A. Layton, William A. Boolman, Ed Esterline, James Hamilton, Joseph Cowden, George Kershner, Henry Kershner, Goldie Wike, Oscar Wike, J. P. Confer, Cliff Ginnevin, George Albin, Perry M. Stewart, Howard Confer, William Jolley, Emerson Shaw, George Shaw, Noah Harter, Homer Anderson, George Sparrow, J. H. Brewer, Riley McGrath, Warren McGrath, Frank Shaw, Cicero Holsapple, S. C. Willett, W. E. Davis, Ed Linkhart, Frank Carlisle, Charles Shaw, C. E. Bailey, G. A. Horney, Paul Weiss, Howard Sparrow, W. G. Printz, W. Coultice, C. E. Cyphers, R. C. Brown, George Hill, Leslie E. Rice, Frank Hamilton, Arthur Hill, R. B. Galvin, Andrew Donaker, C. S. Sheldon, P. E. Wike and S. A. Rahn. The first officers of Bright Star council were the following: Councilor, I. K. Warner; vice-councilor, William Shafer; recording secretary, E. M. Young; assistant recording secretary, J. E. Hamilton; financial secretary, O. C. Wike; treasurer, J. P. Funderberg; conductor, D. A. Brewer; warden, Howard Confer; inside sentinel, John Boolman; junior past councilor, W. A. Jolley; chaplain, John Esterline; trustees, J. P. Confer, D. A. Rupert and W. C. Michaels; representative to the state council, W. A. Jolley. The present officers of the council, in the order just indicated, are Edward C. Bowser, J. H. Brewer, Earl W. Dunevant, Glen Ragan, C. R. Baldwin, John Esterline, Fred Esterline, L. J. Crist, J. P. Confer, C. S. Sheldon, Robert Hill, C. D. Clayton, C. D. Clayton (trustee), J. P. Confer, Glen Ragan and L. J. Crist.

#### COUNCIL OF THE JUNIOR ORDER AT JAMESTOWN.

Jamestown Council No. 31, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, at Jamestown, was organized on November 29, 1899, and holds its meetings in a rented hall on West Washington street. The charter members of the council were Jesse Taylor, George R. Spahr, Al Zeiner, H. H. Woolpert, George Cross, W. H. Church, J. W. Zeiner, J. I. McClain, Lou Brads, J. H.



Davis, William Lieurance, Albert Conrey, H. C. Lieurance, John Jenks, W. M. Barefoot, Abner Johnson, W. B. Ford, C. B. Wilkinson, M. G. Ford, C. C. Moon, Clarence Flowers, C. W. Sharp, M. W. Ballard, Moody Collett, C. C. Bargdill, A. W. McKinley, O. C. Wilkinson, C. E. Iloff, Lester Smith and J. E. Lout. Following were the first officers of the council: Councilor, William Lieurance; vice-councilor, C. C. Bargdill; recording secretary, C. W. Sharp; assistant recording secretary, A. W. McKinley; financial secretary, Al Zeiner; treasurer, George Spahr; conductor, J. H. Davis; warden, M. G. Ford; inside sentinel, George Cross; outside sentinel, Lester Smith; junior past councilor, Jesse Taylor; trustees, C. B. Wilkinson, C. C. Moon and Lester Smith; representative to the state council, Jesse Taylor; chaplain, Charles Iloff. The present (1918) officers of the Jamestown council are as follows: Councilor, Roscoe Tidd; vice-councilor, R. M. Trout; recording-secretary, C. W. Sharp; financial secretary, David Venard; treasurer, J. W. Shigley; conductor, George Douglass; inside sentinel, C. E. Moorman; outside sentinel, Charles Haney; trustees, Clyde Bullock, Roscoe Tidd and Ansel Wilts; chaplain, Lewis Glass.

#### SUNSHINE COUNCIL OF THE JUNIOR ORDER.

The village of Osborn has a council of the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics, the same having been instituted on April 21, 1896, as Sunshine Council No. 344, with the following charter members: H. R. Kendig, J. H. Kissinger, J. O. Staup, William McMullen, S. C. Koogler, J. R. Kissinger, J. A. Pieffer, Sr., Jacob Yowler, J. F. Esterline, F. M. Capenhefer, Joe Capenhefer, Harry McCleary, John Smith, C. H. Cay, M. G. McCleary, William Semler, George Gheen, Everett Harner, C. H. Bagford, R. H. Kline, W. H. Kendig, John Ashbaugh, H. W. Ginnevan, M. W. Seliman, Abe Lewis, Horton Tippy, George Shellebarger, William Yowler, John Beasley and M. E. Overton. The council holds its meetings in a hall in the Barkman building and its present officers are the following: Councilor, Howard Styer; vice-councilor, John Morris; recording secretary, John Williams; assistant recording secretary, Howard Burgeman; financial secretary, Henry Rathfon; treasurer, Amos Schaber; conductor, Russell Yowler; warden, Carl Sheover; inside sentinel, William Yowler; outside sentinel, William Damaker; junior past councilor, Ralph Miltman; trustee, G. E. Bagley, H. C. Sheetz and F. M. Capenhefer; chaplain, Leonard Kollefroth; representatives to the state council, Ira Kneisley and F. M. Capenhafer; alternate delegates to the state council, John Williams, Henry Rathfon and Ira Kneisley.

#### DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA.

There are two chapters, or lodges, of the Daughters of America in Xenia, the first of which, Pride of Xenia Chapter No. 140, was organized on March 16, 1907, with the following charter membership: G. W. Morri-

son, Thomas C. Owens, Ada Zimmerman, Sarah Crossley, Sarah Shelly, Carrie Witham, Edith Shelly, Mary Clark, Jennie Disbrow, Mattie Humston, Emma Randall, Ella Cook, Eugenia Critten, Della Berry, Opal Owens, A. C. Messenger, Hector Osborn, M. E. Coulter, Melissa Fackler, Anna Schull, William McFadden, Forest Greene, Ona Cleaver, Ona Hellrigle, Ella Thomas, Mary West, Della Humston, Grace Stoops, Mary Nann and Margaret Pickett. The chapter now has a membership of one hundred and eighty-four and its meetings, which are held on Thursday evenings of each week in the hall of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics in South Detroit street, show an average attendance of thirty-five. The first officers of the chapter were the following: Councilor, Ada Zimmerman; vice-councilor, Sarah Crossley; assistant councilor, Edith Shelly; assistant vice-councilor, Ona Cleaver; recording secretary, Emma Randall; assistant recording secretary, Mattie Humston; financial secretary, Anna Schull; treasurer, M. E. Coulter; conductor, Melissa Fackler; warden, Thomas Owens; inside sentinel, Ona Hellrigle; outside sentinel, Sarah Shelly; junior past councilor, William McFadden; assistant junior past councilor, William Morrison; trustees, William Hellrigle, Thomas Owens and A. C. Messenger; representative to the state council, William McFadden. Following are the present officers of the lodge: Councilor, Opal Owens; assistant councilor, Mary Davis; vice-councilor, Alice Robinson; assistant vice-councilor, Barbara Smith; recording secretary, Rosa Reese; assistant recording secretary, Ethel Miller; financial secretary, Emma Randall; treasurer, Ada Weller; conductor, Mary Shaw; warden, Ruth Owens; inside sentinel, J. P. Keiter; outside sentinel, William Oran; junior past councilor, Louise Greene; assistant junior past councilor, Clara Ary; representative to the state council, Laura Mellage; trustees, Ella Blake, Flora Horner and Alice Smith.

OBEDIENT CHAPTER NO. 160, DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA.

Obedient Chapter No. 160, Daughters of America, at Xenia, was organized on September 30, 1913, with the following charter membership: Curtis Jeffries, Emma Dean, Ralph Dean, A. W. Tullis, Norma Tullis, Charles Beavers, C. F. McCoy, Allie McCoy, George H. Smith, Edith Thompson, Goldie Green, Sarah Carnes, Anna Hudson, Bessie McDermitt, Maud Rankin, Cora Bridgman, Goldie Buckles, Howard S. Spahr, John Cyphers, J. E. Sutton, C. S. Mock, J. C. McCoy, Maud P. Mock, H. L. Hupman, Jessie McKinney, Della McKinney, Homer Chambliss, Callie White, Cora McCoy, Ida Thompson and Iva Farnshell. The first officers of this organization were the following: Councilor, Mrs. A. W. Tullis; assistant councilor, Mrs. A. Hudson; vice-councilor, Mrs. J. C. McCoy; assistant vice-councilor,

Mrs. C. F. McCoy; junior past councilor, Mrs. I. Farnshell; assistant junior past councilor, Miss B. McDermitt; recording secretary, Charles Beavers; financial secretary, Edward Sutton; assistant recording secretary, George H. Smith; warden, Miss D. McKinney; conductor, Goldie M. Buckles; treasurer, A. W. Tullis; outside sentinel, Curtis Jeffries; inside sentinel, Cora Bridgman; representative to the state council, Mrs. I. Farnshell; alternate representative to the state council, Mrs. B. McDermitt; trustees, Mrs. J. C. McCoy, Ralph Dean and J. C. McCoy. This lodge holds its meetings in the hall in the Kingsbury building in South Detroit street, renting the same from the Xenia lodge of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. Following are the present officers of the lodge: Councilor, Cora Bridgman; assistant councilor, Rachel Curlett; vice-councilor, Florence Hitchcock; assistant vice-councilor, Nelle Corwin; junior past councilor, Richard McClelland; assistant past councilor, Allora McCoy; recording secretary, Myrtle M. Coulter; financial secretary, George H. Smith; assistant recording secretary, Amy Spellman; warden, Charlotte Price; conductor, Ona Cleaver; treasurer, Mrs. Harry Karch; outside sentinel, Grace Mobley; inside sentinel, M. E. Coulter; trustees, J. C. McCoy, Mary West and Rosa Lewis; representative to the state council, T. M. Karch; alternate representative to the state council, Maud Doughett.

#### LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE.

There is a lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose at Xenia, the same having been instituted on August 11, 1915, under the name of Xenia Lodge No. 1629, with the following charter members: W. S. Odenkirk, Ed. J. Wilkins, D. A. Smith, C. E. Beaver, R. M. Neeld, George W. Sheets, Roy Barnes, B. F. Eckerle, George Adams, Rufus Mullen, William Foglesong, B. F. Thomas, P. L. Robinett, John Daly, T. G. Rayburn, Raymond Reeves, G. C. Mendenhall, W. J. Moore, F. E. Dill, Elmer Yeakley, William Foley, J. R. Rhubert, J. R. Ayres, Charles E. Waite and Dan McNealis. The lodge occupies the M. H. Schmidt building on the corner of West and Main streets and the present officers of the same are as follow: Past dictator, Frank L. Bath; dictator, Roy E. Barnes; vice-dictator, B. F. Eckerle; prelate, William Devoe; secretary, William Foley; treasurer, George W. Sheets; inner guard, O. H. Stephens; outer guard, Floyd Dill; trustees, Orville Tucker, Ed. Burtis and Charles Tindall. The first officers elected by the Xenia lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose were the following: Past dictator, W. S. Odenkirk; dictator, E. J. Wilkins; vice-dictator, D. A. Smith; prelate, C. E. Dowdell; secretary, R. M. Neeld; treasurer, George W. Sheets; inner guard, B. F. Eckerle; outer guard, George Adams; trustees, Rufus Mullen, William Foglesong and B. F. Thomas.

## THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES.

Xenia Aerie No. 1689, Fraternal Order of Eagles, was organized on September 19, 1907, the following officers being installed when the aerie was instituted: Hal Humston, Will Purdom, Jack Martin, Dan Donovan, Dr. A. L. Brundige, Joe Toohey, Charles Carroll, H. L. Karch, W. McIntosh and M. J. Dugan. The aerie owns its own building, where its meetings are held, on West Main street, the property being valued at four thousand dollars. The present officers of the aerie are Clyde Smith, George Weddle, Elmer Yeakley, James McCabe, Dr. A. DeHaven, Harry Jordan, Will Bath, H. L. Clark, Joe Wood and Russell Stephens, the three last named being the trustees.

## COLORED LODGES.

There are several lodges of secret societies representing the colored population of the county, the membership of which is chiefly found in Xenia, Wilberforce and Jamestown. There are also some other lodges in Greene county not included in the foregoing, but requests for information regarding the same have met with no response.

## CHAPTER XXXV.

### LITERARY, SOCIAL, TEMPERANCE AND PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATIONS.

Xenia claims the honor of having established the first woman's club in the United States, the organization of the Woman's Club in the spring of 1867 antedating the beginning of Sorosis by about one year. Among the charter members of the Woman's Club were the following, all of whom are deceased: Mrs. Charles Merrick, Mrs. Moses Barlow, Mrs. Samuel Newton, Mrs. M. C. Allison, Mrs. George S. Ormsby, Mrs. Downey, Mrs. Henrietta Monroe, Kate Edwards and Helen M. Walker.

The first president was Mrs. Monroe, the second, Mrs. Barlow. The club was organized as a purely literary club and has always confined itself to literary work. For some years it maintained a lecture course during the winter season, bringing such people to Xenia as Theodore Tilton, Anna Dickinson, George Kennan and Paul DuChailu. The temperance crusade of the '70s caused a temporary cessation of the club's activities, but it soon resumed its work and there has been no break in its organization since that time. Mrs. Henrietta Monroe was the last of the charter members to pass away. The president for the year 1918 is Mrs. Mary A. Kinney. Its membership is limited to twenty-five. The club is a member of the state and national federations of women's clubs.

#### JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB.

The Junior Woman's Club was organized in 1901 by the younger women of the town, it being felt that in a city the size of Xenia there was plenty of room for two literary clubs. It has always been a pure literary club and has outlined its work from year to year so as to make its work of real benefit to its members. During 1917-18 the club has made an intensive study of South America, the fifteen meetings of the year being given over to the study of the various countries of that continent, as well as to a comprehensive study of the continent as a whole.

The membership is limited to thirty. The officers for the current year are as follow: Mrs. F. L. Smith, president; Julia McCormick, vice-president; Mrs. Graham Bryson. The executive committee is composed of Mrs. A. C. Messenger, Mrs. C. C. Shearer and Helen Jobe.

#### GREENE COUNTY WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

The Greene County Woman's Christian Temperance Union was organized in Xenia on February 13, 1875, with Mrs. Henrietta L. Monroe as president and Ellen Ewing, secretary. For forty-three years the organiza-

tion has been an active factor in the temperance movement in the county, during which time it has seen the county freed of a saloon for periods of varying length. In the early days of the Union there were only three departments of work, while in 1918 there are thirty-one departments with a superintendent over each department. The work of the organization has been sometimes carried on under great difficulties, especially in its earlier years. Forty years ago there were a number of distilleries yet in operation in the county and some of the most prominent people of the county were identified with the business. When the famous temperance crusades of the '70s were being carried on the Union was fought with an intensity that is hard to comprehend at the present time.

Yet during the entire existence of the local organization it has remained true to the underlying principles which led to its founding, never bowing to those who sought to keep the organization from doing its duty as it saw it. Its members have been loyal to their trust, loyal to the cause for which they stand, and it should be a cause for gratification to them to know that their years of hard work have not been in vain. As this article is being written there is pending an amendment to the federal constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, and it is the consensus of opinion that it will be adopted by the required number of states. There are now twenty-eight states of the Union which are "dry" under constitutional or statutory provisions, all of which will undoubtedly ratify the federal amendment, while in April, 1918, there were five "wet" states which had already ratified the amendment.

And the Woman's Christian Temperance Union should be given a large amount of credit for bringing about this very much to be desired result. It has been awakening the minds and consciences of the people of America to the evils of the liquor traffic and future generations will undoubtedly give no small share of the credit to the faithful women who have labored all these years through the medium of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. There are some things which can not be measured with the foot rule or gauged by the scale, and one of these things is the work of the women who have fought so nobly for temperance.

There is no particular event standing forth in the history of the local organization in Greene county. They have gone on their way for these three and forty years, doing their duty as they saw it, not being swerved from their duty because of any opposition, and yet carrying on their work in an unostentatious manner. They have seen their first president called to the head of the state organization and other members called upon to fill other state offices in the Union. Mrs. Monroe was followed by Mrs. Campbell, of Clifton, who in turn gave way to Mrs. Hopkins, of Xenia. Mrs.

Monroe was then again called to the presidency and held the office until she resigned on July 15, 1886, to accept the presidency of the Ohio Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Mrs. Martha Morton, of Cedarville, wife of Doctor Morton of that town, was elected to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Monroe. Mrs. Morton was followed on August 2, 1888, by Mrs. Mary E. B. Dodds, of Xenia, the latter continuing in office until April 14, 1891. When Mrs. Dodds assumed the presidency there were only six local unions in the county, the total membership of the county then being one hundred and eighty. There were at that time only three departments, namely: Literature, railroad work and scientific temperance instruction, each department being presided over by a superintendent.

On August 2, 1888, the following officers were elected: Mrs. Mary E. B. Dodds, president; Mellie Marks, Yellow Springs, recording secretary; Mary Murdock, Cedarville, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Lou Shigley, Jamestown, treasurer. The local unions at this time were located in Xenia, Cedarville, Yellow Springs, Jamestown and Spring Valley. There were two unions at Xenia, this making six for the entire county. Mrs. Dodds remained at the head of the Union until 1891, when she was succeeded by Mary Murdock, of Cedarville. The presidents since 1891, with the years of their service, are as follow: Mary Murdock, 1891-94; Mrs. M. Z. Bargdill, Jamestown, 1894-96; Mrs. K. M. Judy, Yellow Springs, 1896-98; Mrs. Fannie B. Dean, Jamestown, 1898-1901; Mary Murdock, Cedarville, 1901-04; Mrs. Carrie L. Flatter, Goes Station, 1904-15; Mrs. Mary L. Collins, since 1915. The other officers in 1918 are as follow: Mrs. W. C. Lacey, vice-president; Mrs. W. J. Boots, corresponding secretary; Mrs. S. T. Baker, treasurer; Mary Murdock and Mrs. Carrie L. Flatter, honorary presidents.

While all of these presidents have been capable women, the county organization is free to acknowledge that Mrs. Flatter has been the most efficient president the county has had since the days of Mrs. Monroe. Mrs. Flatter is one of the strongest temperance speakers the county has ever produced and has been frequently called into other states to make temperance speeches. A woman of magnetic personality, of rare executive ability, and with unbounded zeal for the cause, she was the recognized leader of the temperance forces of the county as long as she was at the head of the county union. She served for eleven years as its head, and then resigned against the wishes of all the members.

In 1900 there were five local unions in the county with only seventy paid-up members. In 1903 the membership was seventy-eight; in 1904 there were eight unions and one hundred and fifty-one members; in 1905 there were one hundred and eighty-six members; in 1906 there were eleven

unions and two hundred and fifteen members; in 1907 the number of unions had increased to nineteen with a total membership of nine hundred and seventy-one. The greatest growth of the county organization was in 1907, that year being the banner year in the whole history of the local county Union. In fact, in 1907 the county received a banner for having made the largest gain of any county in the United States.

In 1918 there are in active operation nineteen local unions in the county: A. C. Turrell, Mrs. Lizzie Burrell, president; Aley, Mrs. L. H. Bailey, president; Anne W. Clark, Mrs. Charles S. Dean, president; Bellbrook, I. M. James, president; Bowersville, Mrs. S. T. Carpenter, president; Cedarville, Lulu Henderson, president; Clifton, Mrs. Ross, president; Effie Carter, Mrs. Alice Rountree, president; Jamestown, Mrs. J. H. Lackey, president; Jamestown Willard, Mrs. Arnetta Hough, president; McClellan, Mrs. J. S. Van Eaton, president; Osborn, Anna T. Morris, president; Ross Township, Mrs. Charles Ritenour; South Side, Mrs. Harry Siefert, president; Spring Valley, Mrs. Colvin, president; Wilberforce, Hallie Q. Brown, president; Xenia, Elizabeth Thomas, president; Yellow Springs, Mrs. W. C. Lacey, president; Bramlett (Yellow Springs), Mrs. Bertha Hall, president. Each of these nineteen local unions of the county has a full quota of officers and is fully organized for work under the direction of the county organization.

The oldest local union of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in the county with a record of continuous activity is Xenia Union, which dates from December 3, 1874. It was the pioneer organization of the town and one of the very first in the United States.

It is a matter of history that the national organization of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union came into being in the fall of 1874. It is said that the first local union in the world was established in Osborn, Greene county, Ohio, by "Mother" Stewart in September, 1873. The winter of 1873-74 witnessed the beginning of a spectacular temperance crusade, the like of which the country had never before seen and one which has not been duplicated since that time. It was the first local union of Xenia which bore such a conspicuous part in this crusade, a crusade which resulted in the closing of thirteen saloons in the town in the course of three weeks.

So many years have elapsed since this famous crusade that most of the participants in it have passed away. Elizabeth E. Thomas, now the president of the local Xenia union, was then teaching in the city schools and has a very vivid recollection of the striking events of the months of February and March, 1874, during which time the crusade was at its height in Xenia. The opening of the formal crusade was on February 19, 1874. On this day, a cold blustery day, the ground being heavily covered with



snow, seven bands of women devoted to the cause of temperance, began their unique effort to rid Xenia of saloons. It is probable that this day will stand forth as one of the most exciting the town has ever known. The leaders of these seven groups of women were Mrs. J. G. Carson, Mrs. George Watt, Mrs. John Shearer, Mrs. John Carey, Mrs. Henrietta L. Monroe and Mrs. Connable. Each group consisted of from twenty-five to forty women, each one of whom had pledged herself to follow their leader. Their plan was to gather on the sidewalk in front of a saloon and conduct a service of song, prayer and speaking with the hope of being able to induce the keeper of the saloon to agree to close his doors.

It appears that the first saloon chosen for their efforts in the morning of this eventful day was that of Stephen Phillips at the corner of Whiteman and Second streets, his saloon being for some reason known at that time as the "Shades of Death." The groups worked in relays on the sidewalk in front of the saloon, a friendly blacksmith up Whiteman street allowing the women to remain in his shop to keep warm while not on duty. After several hours of work on their part, Phillips capitulated and told the women that he was ready to quit the business. He invited them to come inside and help to carry the liquor out and pour it into the street, an invitation which was eagerly accepted, and which soon resulted in the complete destruction of his entire stock of liquors. Later, to tell the rest of the story concerning Phillips, the women raised enough money to establish him in a meat market, appropriately called the "Dawn of Day."

Following their initial success with Phillips the women proceeded with the other saloons in the town. It is not necessary to follow the story of the next three weeks in detail. The women met with success far beyond their expectations; one saloon keeper after another succumbed to their attack, until by the end of the third week no fewer than thirteen saloons voluntarily closed their doors. Not all of these capitulated as easily as the first one, but the women kept faithfully at their work, beginning early in the morning with their service on the sidewalk in front of the saloon and keeping it up throughout the day and evening, their voices being raised every minute of this time in song, prayer or pleading for the saloon keeper to come forth and declare he was ready to quit the business. It is not too much to say that Xenia has never seen such an exciting three weeks as these weeks of February and March, 1874.

The campaign lasted about six months in Xenia, during which time the women worked unceasingly, but there were still some saloonkeepers who refused to close their doors. Thus it was that the first local union of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union received its baptism and was dedicated to the cause of temperance. While there has never since been such

a concentrated effort to drive the saloons out of the city, yet this local union has never relaxed its efforts to free the city from them. It would be difficult to pick out the women who are deserving of the most credit for the work which this local union has done. Probably the greatest of the early leaders in the work was Mrs. Henrietta L. Monroe, a woman of great strength of character, a splendid executive, an effective organizer, a forceful speaker, and a woman withal who was able to inspire her followers with an unconquerable zeal for the cause of temperance. Mrs. W. A. Shappee was another great worker, a woman who was not afraid to talk to any one on the subject of temperance, and who talked with such conviction that her work was crowned with remarkable success. She was a typical temperance evangelist and let no obstacles stand in her path. For nearly a quarter of a century she was a power in the Xenia union. Other giants of those early days in the temperance cause were Mrs. James J. Winans, Mrs. George Dodds, Mrs. C. C. Shearer and Mrs. J. G. Winans. Mrs. Cooley is remembered for her work among the colored people of the county.

The great temperance work done in Xenia in 1874 was duplicated in several other towns in Ohio at the same time, and it was undoubtedly due to work of these women at this time that the Woman's Christian Temperance Union was born at Cleveland, Ohio, November 18-20, 1874. Pursuant to a call sent forth from the Chautauqua platform at Chautauqua, New York, in June, 1874, a meeting of women was called at Cleveland in November of that year, at which the first national temperance organization was effected. It was only two weeks from the time that the national organization of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union was brought about that a number of Xenia women met and organized what has since been known as the Xenia union. They adopted a constitution on December 3, 1874, with seventeen charter members, including all of the women who had borne the brunt of the crusade against the saloons of Xenia in February and March of that year, a brave band of women who endured the indifference of good, well-meaning people and the scorn of their enemies. They bore uncomplainingly the discouragement of defeats, laboring under difficulties which are hard to comprehend today, but all the time keeping the temperance sentiment alive, and at a time when it took a brave woman to ally herself openly with the cause. But their faith in the ultimate triumph of prohibition never wavered, and if those courageous women of the '70s were living today they would have the satisfaction of seeing that their work was not in vain.

The Xenia union entertained Frances Willard in Xenia on June 15, 1885. On that day Miss Willard gave an inspiring talk in the Trinity Methodist church, and when she concluded her talk of an hour the audience

begged her to continue. The union has also brought other noted temperance speakers to the town in the course of the past forty-four years. In December, 1888, Miss Willard sent the local union a motto, which has since been a guide to them in their work.

The records of the Xenia union are not very clear as to the succession of its presidents. Mrs. Caroline Winans appears to have been the president nearly all of the time from 1874 to 1888, although Mrs. George Dodds was at the head for a time during this period. Mrs. Dodds was treasurer for several years, and in those days the treasurer probably had a more difficult office to fill than that of president. Mrs. Winans was president again from 1900 to 1908. Since the latter year there have been three presidents: Mrs. Frances Sanderson, 1908-10; Mrs. Samuel Galloway, 1910-12; Elizabeth E. Thomas, since 1912. The Xenia union now has about sixty active members. It is divided into a number of departments for more effective work, each department being in charge of a superintendent. The officers of this local union in 1918 are as follow: President, Elizabeth E. Thomas; vice-president, Mrs. Homer G. Biddlecum; corresponding secretary, Jennie Thomas; recording secretary, Mrs. Edith Norckauer; treasurer, Mrs. Ella Nisonger.

While the local union at Xenia is the oldest in the county seat, and blazed the way for all of the local unions of the county, yet there has been another local in the city for the past eight years which has been very active. In fact, the A. C. Turrell Union, organized in 1910, named in honor of the Rev. A. C. Turrell, the pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Xenia for six years, is now the largest local union in the county. It was formed for the immediate purpose of making a determined effort to drive the saloon out of Xenia, and so successful was its work that every saloon in the city was closed by April 15, 1911. The Turrell Union was organized in September, 1910, with thirty charter members and now has a membership of about one hundred. Its first president was Mrs. Eber Reynolds, who was followed in 1911 by Mrs. Walter Dean for a three-year period. Mrs. Eli Burrell, the present head of this local union, followed Mrs. Dean in 1914. Its other officers include the following: Mrs. Anna Bull, vice-president; Mrs. M. C. Bailey, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Maud Smith, recording secretary; Mrs. Henry Dunkle, treasurer. The A. C. Turrell Union is active in flower-mission work, evangelistic social service, law enforcement and war work. It had charge of the Christmas boxes which the county sent to all the Greene county boys in war service at holiday time, and is doing a great and good work in keeping in touch with all the boys of the county who are now in some branch of the military service. It must not be understood that the Xenia and Turrell Unions deserve more credit than the other local unions of the county, but the fact that they are

located in the county seat and have the largest membership gives them the opportunity to do more. All the other unions of the county are doing their part commensurate with the size of their local organizations. These unions of Xenia have, however, been acting in a sense as a clearing house for the other unions of the county, especially in connection with all the war work of the women of the county.

The county organization now has thirty-one departments fully officered and organized for effective work. These various departments are as follows: Flower mission, evangelistic; Sabbath observance, Sunday school work, temperance and labor, mothers meetings, Christian citizenship, literature, periodicals, scientific temperance instruction, social and red-letter days, anti-narcotic, parliamentary, franchise, press, fair and open meetings, health and heredity, juvenile courts, medical temperance, medical contests, purity and purity in literature and art, institute, work among colored people, young people's branch, musical director, mercy and humane work, peace, railroad, Bible in public schools and finally, the department recently organized to work in behalf of the soldiers and sailors who have gone forth from the county. The title of the organization does not in any way indicate the wide scope of its activities, which, as may be seen, comprehend a varied program of work along widely different lines. But there is no one thing which they are doing which is not done for the good of the community. Everything which comes under their purview makes for better citizenship, for better men and women, and for a better county in which to live. They are doing a great and noble work, a self-sacrificing work, for it must be understood that not a woman engaged in this work receives any compensation for what she does. Their services are given free and unstintedly for the good of the county which they call their home; not a woman of the organization expects to receive a monetary reward for her services, but is content if she can contribute in any way to the betterment of her home county.

A word should be added concerning the part the women of Greene county have taken in the state organization. It has been mentioned that Mrs. Henrietta L. Monroe was at one time president of the state organization, and that Mrs. Carrie L. Flatter has a national reputation for her work in the temperance cause. Mary Ervin, of Cedarville, is now a national lecturer and organizer for the Loyal Temperance Legion and is doing a great work. The year 1918 finds the following Greene county women on the state organization: Mrs. Carrie L. Flatter, member of board of trustees; Mrs. Fannie B. Custis, superintendent of Sabbath school work; Mrs. Della Snodgrass, lecturer on purity; Mrs. Olive K. Dean, superintendent of department of Christian citizenship.

## DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a patriotic organization of women. The eligibility for membership in this organization is confined to those who can establish a lineal descent from some ancestor who fought in the Revolutionary War. The primary objects of the organization are to foster patriotism and love of country, to encourage historical research and the protection of historical sites, to preserve Revolutionary relics, to maintain and defend all institutions of American freedom, and to promote all agencies for the diffusion of historical knowledge, but it has added other features to the original plan under which it was organized. Probably the most important feature which has been added to the work of the society is that of helping organized charitable and benevolent movements. Beginning with the Spanish-American War, the society has given particular attention to the work of the Red Cross and renewed its work with that organization in the summer of 1916 when the American army went to the Mexican front. Its work along this line during the last two years needs no comment. The society has also been taking a more or less active part in civic improvements during the past few years, a work which was not planned for it by its promoters. The character of the work in different chapters varies widely; some chapters adhere closely to the original plan of operation, while others have made radical departures and branched out in work never dreamed of by the women who started the organization. But this much should be said—all of the work done by the Daughters is of an historical or public-spirited nature and does not in any way conflict with the original plan of the organization.

Catherine Greene Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, was organized on December 16, 1894, at the home of Mrs. B. K. King. The credit for the organization of the chapter was largely due to the efforts of Miss Emma C. King, and she became the first regent of the chapter upon its organization. Mrs. A. Howard Hinkle, state regent, effected the organization and started the chapter with twenty charter members, namely: Mrs. Robert D. Adair, Mrs. S. M. Allison, Mrs. George F. Cooper, Mrs. Charles Darlington, Mrs. Henry H. Eavey, Mrs. William A. Galloway, Mrs. Charles S. Johnson, Mrs. James A. Johnston, Emma C. King, Isadora F. King, Mrs. Edwin Meredith, Sarah Belle Williams, Mrs. William M. Wilson, Mrs. Sarah E. Harbine, Mary McCurdy, Mrs. Charles Walkley, Virginia Lauman, Mrs. Vanderveer Taylor, Mrs. Betsy K. King and Mrs. Cora Day Young.

For a number of years after the chapter was organized members were added slowly, but there are now eighty on the roll of the chapter. During the past year eight regular monthly programs were given, while a number of special meetings were held. The regular monthly meetings are featured by one special paper, followed by a discussion and a social hour.

It would be difficult to describe in detail what the local chapter has accomplished during the twenty-four years of its existence. Its work has not been of a kind to attract attention, much of it being of the quiet, unostentatious kind which never reached the public eye. The public at large has never known of the innumerable contributions which the chapter has made for all kinds of charitable and benevolent purposes. During the Spanish-American War it furnished clothes and in many ways performed the same work which is now in charge of the Red Cross. At that time there was no national Red Cross in the sense that there is in 1918, and the Daughters of the American Revolution took it upon themselves to do much of the work which is now done by the Red Cross. Since the present war began the local chapter has raised a war fund of one thousand dollars and has also contributed liberally to the Daughters of the American Revolution lodge at Chillicothe. In other ways the chapter has contributed to the welfare of the soldiers in the service, as well as to their families left behind.

There are a few events which stand forth in the history of the chapter. One of these was the loan exhibit in 1897. This was held in the room at the corner of Market and Greene streets now occupied by W. A. Kelley, the exhibit consisting of all kinds of Indian and pioneer relics. A considerable amount was realized from the exhibit, and this money was used by the chapter in a variety of ways. Part of it was used to entertain the state conference of the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1907, and part of it was still on hand in 1917 and was then invested in Liberty bonds. In 1906 the chapter erected a handsome monument at Oldtown marking the approximate site of the birth of Tecumseh and also the point where Simon Kenton finished his famous gauntlet run. The monument bears the following inscription:

THIS STONE MARKS THE SITE OF  
 OLD CHILLICOTHE, THE PRINCIPAL  
 TOWN OF THE SHAWANEE INDIANS  
 TECUMSEH, CHIEF  
 THE FAMOUS GAUNTLET, RUN BY  
 SIMON KENTON IN 1778, WAS FROM  
 SEXTON'S HILL TO THE COUNCIL HOUSE,  
 WHICH STOOD 30 RODS WEST OF  
 THIS SITE.

The present members of the club include all of the original charter members except two non-resident members, Mrs. Sarah E. Harbine and Mary McCurdy, and those lost by death: Mrs. S. M. Allison, Miss Virginia Lauman and Mrs. Betsy Kendall King. The remaining members are Mrs. Dilver Belden, Frances Bigger, Mrs. Karl R. Babb, Mrs. James P. Chew, Madge B. Cooley, Mrs. Myra K. A. von Hovel, Carpe, Mrs. L. F. Creamer, Catherine Corrine Creamer, Emma Davidson, Mrs. John M. Davidson, Mrs. Frank

DuBois, Elizabeth Ewing, Mrs. Charles E. Fisher, Mrs. Andrew S. Frazer, Mrs. Charles W. Figgins, Evelyn Helen Galloway, Mary Belle Gatch, Sarah B. Hagar, M. Gertrude Hagar, Mary B. Hawkins, Mrs. Chester Hinkle, Mrs. Robert S. Kingsbury, Mrs. Robert H. Kingsbury, Mrs. Harry S. LeSourd, Mrs. Thomas L. Magruder, Opal Mallow, Mrs. John M. McCalmont, Mrs. William H. McGervey, Mrs. Milton S. McKay, Mrs. Asa C. Messenger, Mrs. Harold C. Messenger, Mrs. Austin M. Patterson, Mrs. John W. Peterson, Mrs. Charlie A. Santmyer, Mrs. Fred J. H. Schell, Ada Stormont, Mrs. Nelle E. Schuster, Margaret Elinor Steele, Florence Miriam Steele, Mrs. J. D. Steele, Pauline Torrence, Mrs. George Tiffany, Mrs. Stephen F. Weston, Mrs. Charles A. Weaver, Anna Weaver and Mrs. Kenneth Williamson. The non-resident members, with their addresses, are: Mrs. Richard H. Ahlers, Chicago; Mrs. William A. Aiken, New York City; Charlotte Luella Baker, Cleveland; Frances Baker, Cleveland; Mrs. William H. Batson, Fort Worth, Texas; Emma C. Combs, Buenos Ayres; Mrs. Charles W. Drees, Buenos Ayres; Mrs. William L. Ekin, Decatur, Illinois; Mrs. Charles E. Galloway, Chicago; Mrs. George F. Hardy, Whitestone, Long Island; Mrs. John H. Herding, Duluth; Mrs. Sarah E. Harbine, Tucson, Arizona; Amelia I. Harbine, Tucson, Arizona; Mrs. Paul E. Hawkins, Troy, Ohio; Mrs. Charles M. Kelso, Dayton; Mrs. Walter Koch, Millersburg, Ohio; Mary McCurdy, Akron; Mrs. Korah S. Shambaugh, Oakland, California; Mrs. Henry C. Stark, Columbus, Ohio; Lucy Stewart, Akron; Mrs. H. A. Thompson, Cherry Ridge, Ohio. Following are deceased members: Mrs. Betsy Kendall King, Mrs. Jennie Norton Bevridge, Mrs. Evelyn Spitzer Lyon, Mrs. Georgia Sinks Brown, Mrs. Fannie Metcalf Bagnall, Mrs. Mary Luella Stewart Hagar, Sarah Connable Bontecou, Mrs. Jennie Stevenson Knowles, Virginia Lauman, Mrs. Laura Carpenter Finley, Mrs. Louisa Myers Allison, Mrs. Sarah D. Nesbitt.

The regents of the chapter since its establishment are the following: Emma C. King, 1894; Mrs. Betsy Kendall King, 1895; Virginia Lauman, 1896; Mrs. Henry H. Eavey, 1897; Mrs. John A. Beveridge, 1898; Mrs. S. M. Allison, 1899; Mrs. William M. Wilson, 1900; Mrs. James A. Johnston, 1902; Mrs. Asa C. Messenger, 1904; Mrs. Robert D. Adair, 1908; Mrs. James P. Chew, 1910; Mrs. T. L. Magruder, 1912; Mrs. William H. McGervey, 1915; Mrs. William M. Wilson, since 1917. The present officers of the chapter are the following: Regent, Mrs. William M. Wilson; vice-regent, Mrs. Asa C. Messenger; secretary, Evelyn H. Galloway; treasurer, Mrs. Charles S. Johnson; historian, Frances Bigger; registrar, Mrs. Karl R. Babb.

Since the chapter was organized it has been making a constant effort to locate all of the graves of the Revolutionary soldiers buried in the county. Thus far the following graves have been located and suitably marked with headstones furnished by the government: James Small, born in York county,

Pennsylvania, February, 1757, and died in Greene county, Ohio, April 23, 1842, Massies Creek cemetery; Wm. Stewart, born in County Derry, Ireland, August 4, 1739, and died at Xenia, Ohio, August 4, 1830, Woodland cemetery, Xenia; George Wright, born February 4, 1756, and died in Xenia, Ohio, in 1829, Woodland cemetery, Xenia; John Torrence, born in Ireland, October 6, 1757, and died at Xenia, July 29, 1840, Woodland cemetery, Xenia; James Galloway, born May 1, 1750, and died August 6, 1838, Stevenson cemetery; Robert Jackson, born in Ireland in 1758, and died one mile west of Cedarville, September 26, 1826, Massies Creek cemetery; Launcelot Junkin, born in Ireland in 1753, and died near Jamestown, June 10, 1833, Stevenson cemetery.

These seven Revolutionary soldiers have had their graves marked with the headstones furnished by the government. There is no way of ascertaining definitely the exact number of Revolutionary soldiers who died in the county, as most of those who died during the early days of the county were buried in obscure country graveyards and their graves were never marked.

#### GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Grand Army of the Republic includes the veterans of the Civil War and such veterans of the Mexican War as fought in the Civil War, although there are very few of the latter now living. Lewis Post of Xenia has had at least two Mexican War veterans on its roster, William Huston and Joshua Simmons, the latter still being on the roll. Huston now makes his home in the Soldiers Home at Dayton.

Lewis Post No. 347 was organized on February 22, 1884, and has had a continuous history since the day of its organization. It appears that there was another post or probably two, organized in Xenia prior to the Lewis post, but neither organization was permanent. Scott Post No. 45 was organized on September 14, 1869, with twenty-two charter members, but for various reasons it surrendered its charter and was disbanded before 1884. Some of the old soldiers also recall a post known as the Steele post, but no definite data seems to have been preserved concerning it. However, it may be said that practically all of the members of these two first organizations later became identified with Lewis post.

The charter members of Lewis post were as follows: H. McQuiston, L. H. Whiteman, W. R. Baker, Joseph C. Stewart, S. N. Adams, John A. Hivling, S. M. Stark, A. H. Brundage, R. M. Stewart, Robert Lytle, W. P. Holtzapple, F. D. Torrence, John G. McPherson, John B. Gowdy, Martin V. Lucas, J. H. Kyle, R. C. Strong, W. H. Harry, H. H. Eavey, John P. Kellogg, William H. Glotfelter, J. H. Matthews, T. E. Scroggy, J. H. McPherson, William Harner and W. W. Brock. These twenty-six charter members formed the nucleus of one of the strongest organizations of the Grand Army of the Republic in the



state for a city the size of Xenia. Members have been added year by year, and about three hundred and forty have been on the roster of the post at one time or another. Deaths, removals and non-payment of dues have decreased the former large membership until on April 20, 1918, there were only fifty-seven members remaining. During the year closing April 1, 1918, there were ten deaths. H. H. Eavey, one of the charter members, died on April 19, 1918.

The post was named in honor of John Lewis, captain of two different companies in two different regiments. He was commissioned captain of Company E, Twelfth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on June 20, 1862, and resigned his command on December 2, 1862. His second commission as captain was dated December 23, 1863, at which time he took command of Company K, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served as captain of this company until he was mustered out on July 13, 1865.

Two important dates stand out in the history of the local post. One was the year of the centennial celebration, 1908, the other being in 1910, the year the local post entertained the state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. During the centennial week of 1908 one day was set aside as military day, and on that day Lewis Post had a grand parade which included practically all of the old soldiers of the county. While this occasion was a memorable one, it was left for the state encampment to give the veterans an opportunity to make the grandest showing of any year since the Civil War.

The encampment was held in June, 1910, and the celebration extended over five days. One of the biggest problems connected with the celebration was the matter of raising the money to defray the expenses. When it is stated that it took five thousand dollars to finance the celebration, and that this was raised without a cent of expense to the post or the citizens of the city it will be seen that the affair was well managed. The citizens at the outset pledged nineteen hundred dollars, while the post itself guaranteed one hundred and seventy-five dollars, but this was estimated to be not more than half the sum required. It was at this juncture that Earl Eavey, as chairman of the finance committee, prepared a letter which he proposed that each merchant and business man of the city should send out to all the firms with which they did business, the letter to be signed by the local merchant or business man, setting forth the fact that the local post was going to entertain the state encampment. These hundreds of letters went to all corners of the United States, and although no one firm was asked to contribute more than five dollars, the response was so generous that more than five thousand dollars was raised in this manner. When all the expenses were met at the close of the encampment there was sufficient money on hands to redeem every pledge made by the business men of the

town and also the guarantee of the local post. It was estimated that more than three thousand Civil War and Mexican War veterans were present during the week.

In the spring of 1910 the Sons of Veterans secured the large cannon which now adorns the corner of the court house yard, the coming state encampment being responsible for the cannon being secured in that year. The post met in various places prior to the completion of the present court house, but since it has been opened the post has had commodious quarters in a room in the basement. Here the regular meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month in the year.

The present membership (April 20, 1918) includes the following: Harmon Anderson, Henry Anderson, David F. Baker, John I. Barrows, Albert Burrell, Edward S. Barnett, J. C. Bratton, D. R. Brewer, George H. Burch, C. C. Buckles, D. Calhoun, D. F. Conklin, H. H. Conklin, J. M. Cooper, I. T. Cummins, James M. Collins, D. M. Doggett, Dr. J. P. Dice, William Ellsberry, Henry Eichman, Samuel N. Ellis, Josiah Espey, Joseph Gerard, Jacob Gnaga, John W. Hedges, J. A. Humston, John N. Haynes, George Harner, William B. Holtzapple, George Jenkins, William H. King, Charles Ledbetter, N. C. Litler, J. H. McPherson, William A. Manor, George M. Moore, Thomas M. Moore, James H. Matthews, Samuel Newton, Stephen Pennington, Jacob Persinger, John W. Peterson, Samuel R. Poland, Levi Rader, John W. Rhoades, Joseph Robinett, Robert S. Spahr, William I. Smith, Daniel M. Stewart, Joshua Simmons (Mexican and Civil Wars), Charles Thompson, S. K. Williamson, E. J. Williamson, William Wheeler, Oliver Whitson, C. W. Wilson and H. B. Williams—total, fifty-seven.

The officers for the year 1918 are the following: W. I. Smith, commander; H. H. Conklin, senior vice-commander; S. P. Pennington, junior vice-commander; D. M. Doggett, chaplain; J. H. McPherson, adjutant; T. M. Moore, sergeant major; J. W. Hedges, quartermaster sergeant; C. W. Wilson, surgeon; C. C. Buckles, officer of the day; N. C. Litler, officer of the guard.

There is no record of the colored soldiers which Greene county furnished during the Civil War, the records of the state adjutant general not indicating the color of the volunteers. The same year that the white soldiers of the county organized Lewis Post, the colored soldiers of the county applied for a charter for a post and it was granted in the fall of 1884.

Daniels Post No. 500 was organized on September 18, 1884, with the following charter members: John Jackson, Levi Moore, Charles E. Nichols, Thomas A. Conrad, John A. Kirk, John W. Clifton, Charles Page, Richard Hubanks, John A. Evans, Moses Swisher, Abner Bizzell, Greenville Hern,

Buel Murphy, Jethro Hurst, Robert Leach, George Porter, George Hunter, Oscar Fairfax, Robert Cameron, William Steele, John Cosby, Willis Moxty, James N. Dotch, George Washington, William Jamison, Sterling Evans, Weston Lewis, Douglass Gilbert, Henry Haley, Buford Beatty, James Glass, Nathaniel Holton, Samuel Jackson, James Collins, Richard Lamb, John Bass, John Payne, Joseph Craig and Thomas Robinson.

The post added new members from year to year until it had about one hundred and fifty on its roll, but deaths, removals and suspension for non-payment of dues have so reduced the membership that it has not had regular meetings for some time. Enough of the members still pay their dues to give the post a legal existence.

## CHAPTER XXXVI.

### MILITARY HISTORY.

Greene county has had participants in every war which the United States has waged from the Revolutionary War down to the present great world struggle. It will never be known how many soldiers of the Revolutionary War settled in Greene county, but the number is considerable. The fact that two-thirds of the county falls within the Virginia Military Survey is responsible for several of them, but there were a number who located on congress land. The various expeditions against the Indians between the close of the Revolution and the War of 1812 also included men who became residents of Greene county, while the War of 1812 enrolled at one time or another practically every available man of military age within the county. Not all of these saw service at the front, but they were mobilized for service and most of them were called out for duty at some time during the progress of the war. The Mexican War found Greene county again furnishing men for various Ohio regiments, but the state kept no record of enlistments by counties at that time, and hence it is impossible to tell how many actually went from the county. Two Mexican War veterans are still living in the county, William Huston and Joshua Simmons.

The Civil War witnessed hundreds of Greene county boys going to the front—in fact, Greene county is credited with furnishing more soldiers for the Civil War in proportion to its population than any other county in the state. To this day there is a dispute between some of the townships of the county as to which furnished the most troops in proportion to its population. The Spanish-American War found Greene county again at the front, and doing its duty as nobly as it had always done in the past. As this volume is being written the county is furnishing men day by day and week by week for the greatest war the world has ever known. Already hundreds of men have enlisted and the end is not yet in sight, but it can be said that Greene county is fully doing its share to make the world safe for democracy. The next history of the county will have to tell of the part it took in this fearful struggle, but when it is written the names of hundreds of Greene county boys will be found to have been enrolled for service under the Stars and Stripes.

Little definite information has been preserved concerning the part the early settlers of the county played in the Indian struggles prior to the open-

ing of the War of 1812. It must be remembered that there was no Greene county before the spring of 1803, although scores of the first settlers of the county saw some kind of military service prior to 1812. The expeditions which were waged by St. Clair, Harmar, Wayne, Wilkinson, Clark and other leaders against the Indians included men who later located in Greene county, many of whom saw service in the War of 1812.

In the history of Greene county published in 1902, George F. Robinson enumerated all of the soldiers of the War of 1812 which he had been able to identify as belonging to the county. He arranges them alphabetically and as nearly as possible identifies them with the township where they settled. His list includes eight hundred and sixty men, who, according to his investigations, took part in the War of 1812 and were then or later settlers in Greene county. When he could locate the company to which they were attached, along with the captain of the company, he includes this fact with their name. He also gives the date of death wherever known, as well as the place of burial. The county certainly is indebted to Robinson for his indefatigable labor in collecting all this invaluable data. In view of the fact that his record has been published it seems unnecessary to repeat it in this connection, and the historian of this volume wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to him for some of the facts here presented concerning Greene county's part in that war.

#### THE WAR OF 1812.

Congress declared war on Great Britain on June 18, 1812, and since the early events of the war took place around Lake Erie the state of Ohio furnished more troops at the outset than any other state in the Union. During the fall and winter of that year the local militia companies of all the counties in Ohio were getting ready for service and many of them were sent north to the lake, the settlers of Greene county frequently being called on for companies for short expeditions. Among the captains of local companies during the progress of the war were Robert Gowdy, James Steele, J. Shingledecker, Robert McClellan, Joseph Lucas, Samuel Stewart, Thomas Constant, Rees Baldwin, John Clarke, Peter Price, William Stevenson, George Logan, William Harpole, Samuel Herod, John Watson, Zachariah Ferguson, George Jenkins, Robert Buckles, Thomas Gillespie and John Smith. Benjamin Whiteman was a lieutenant colonel; William Maxwell, William Buckles and William Beatty were majors.

General Hull, former governor of Michigan Territory, was appointed commander of the Army of the West and arrived at Dayton to take charge of the three regiments of Ohio troops on May 25, 1812, about three weeks before war was actually declared. General Hull was seventy years of age at this time, an old man in his dotage, and although he made a fine record

in the Revolutionary War, yet it was a fearful mistake to put him in command of such a body of troops as he faced on May 25, 1812. He left Dayton on June 1, 1812, for Detroit, passing through the northwestern corner of Greene county on his way through to Urbana where he was to await further orders. He arrived at Urbana on June 8 and left there one week later, arriving in Detroit about the middle of July. He went into camp and remained on the defensive until August 16, 1812, when he surrendered to the British forces without firing a shot.

The news of the surrender did not reach Xenia until more than a month later, all of the authorities uniting in declaring that it was not until September 22 that it was known in the town. It threw the entire state into consternation; no one knew what to expect from the Indians; many imagined that they would descend on the frontier counties and massacre the settlers by the thousands. Another cause for apprehension was the fact that the government had collected stores of war material at Piqua and there seemed imminent danger that the savages would seize them. The news, therefore, that Detroit had fallen, that the American army, the only one in the West, were prisoners, was certainly enough to excite the settlers to a frenzy of excitement.

September 22, 1812, fell on Saturday and it is probable that Xenia has never experienced a more exciting night in its whole career than that night. Riders were sent out all over the county, informing the captains of the militia companies in the various townships of the county that they should immediately get their men together and be ready to move to Piqua on Sunday morning. Seven o'clock, Sunday morning, September 23, 1812, saw seventy sturdy pioneers drawn up before the little court house in Xenia ready to depart for Piqua. The captain was James Steele, then a resident of Sugarcreek township. The company was hurried overland by forced march to Piqua where there were stored stores of war material to the value of forty thousand dollars. There were hundreds of Indians in the immediate neighborhood and there was no way of telling when they might attack the town and seize the goods. All day Sunday Greene county was in a state of excitement; horsemen were to be seen up and down all the roads ordering out every citizen of military age; a rendezvous was appointed and the men were told to be there on Monday morning. And they were there--seven more companies of pioneers. On this eventful Monday of September 24, 1812, they marched across the country to Piqua, being joined by other companies from other counties. The net result of this sudden display of armed men was sufficient to convince the Indians that they had no chance of taking the stores at Piqua, even had they entertained such an idea. The supplies were removed to Dayton at once and placed under a strong guard.

and the local companies returned to their several homes to await further call.

During the progress of the war the local companies were called out on a number of occasions. When Ft. Meigs was being besieged in May, 1813, Greene county was called upon for troops and furnished all that were called for—about seven hundred. Most of the men were mounted. They were out only a short time. In August, 1813, another call was made on the county and this time a company was furnished to guard a train of provisions which was to be taken from Ft. McArthur to Ft. Finley. The fifty-two men from the county on this third call performed the duty assigned them and later voted to join a detachment at Upper Sandusky. This is the last call on record for troops from Greene county in the war.

One feature of the War of 1812 which deserves notice is the fact that it undoubtedly was the means of bringing hundreds of settlers to the county. Thousands of men from Kentucky and Tennessee passed up and down the valley of the Little Miami from 1812 to 1815, and it is known that large numbers of them afterward settled in this section. Of this number, Greene county received a goodly share. Again, it should be stated that the war brought to an end any fear of an Indian uprising, a fear which had no doubt kept many settlers from venturing into this section of the state prior to that time. On the whole, it may be said that the war was a good thing for Greene county. The descendants of the old soldiers of the War of 1812 are living in the county today by the hundreds and they should be proud of the service which their forefathers rendered their country.

#### THE CIVIL WAR.

It will never be possible to write the complete history of the Civil War. The enumeration of all the men who went to the front, a list of all those who died in the service and the number of those who returned may be compiled with a fair degree of accuracy. It is possible to ascertain how much money the county commissioners appropriated for relief, or for bounties, and how much the various townships raised for war purposes. In other words, it is possible to set down the number of men and the amount of money expended on account of the war—these things are tangible.

But who can measure the heartaches, the sleepless nights, the days of longing and nights of waiting? Who can describe the anguish suffered by the women who waited for husbands who never returned, or measure the grief of the children who waited in vain for the father who was left on a Southern battlefield? There are some things which cannot be measured by a foot-rule or weighed by a scale—and these are some of them. Three thousand five hundred and fifty-four men from Greene county—and most of these were under twenty-five—went to the front, and they left at least that many hearts

behind to await their return. Day by day, week by week, month by month, and year by year, they waited; the toll of the dead, wounded and captured appeared in the Xenia papers week-by week as the war progressed. Who can describe the fear and trembling with which hundreds of fathers and mothers and sisters and sweethearts picked up the weekly paper and looked to see whether the name of one dear to them was among the dead, or the wounded, or the captured? These are some of the things which baffle the pen of the historian. Therefore, may it again be said—the complete history of the Civil War in Greene county can never be written.

GREENE COUNTY ENLISTMENTS IN THE CIVIL WAR.

A careful summary of the number of soldiers Greene county furnished for the Civil War was published by the county commissioners in 1895. The compilation was in charge of George F. Robinson, who had access to all the available records and spent more than a year in the work of collecting the data. The county appropriated one hundred and fifty dollars to defray the expense of publication. Mr. Robinson gives the name, rank, company, regiment and branch of service of each enlisted man, arranging them by townships. He also indicates re-enlistments where ascertained. The volume of one hundred and ten pages was issued under the title of "After Thirty Years." The following summary of this interesting volume has been made by the present historian:

Townships.	Single Enlistments.	1860 Population.	Percentage.
Bath -----	356	2,713	13.9
Beavercreek -----	329	2,230	14.7
Caesarscreek -----	121	1,183	10.2
Cedarville -----	308	2,257	13.5
Jefferson -----	140	1,280	10.9
Miami -----	87	893	9.7
New Jasper -----	487	893	9.7
Ross -----	83	1,212	6.0
Silvercreek -----	215	1,676	13.3
Spring Valley -----	215	1,403	15.3
Sugarcreek -----	204	1,635	12.4
Xenia -----	1,082	6,977	15.5
Totals -----	3,554	26,290	13.5

This total of 3,554 enlistments does not include those who enlisted more than once, but represents that number of men who went to the front. The federal census of 1860 gave the county a population of 26,290, and this means



that the county sent 13.5 per cent. of its total population to the front. Basing the percentage of enlistments on the population of the various townships in 1860, it will be seen that Miami township furnished more soldiers for the war than any other. Its percentage of 16 per cent. is slightly more than that of Xenia. Upon this basis the townships rank as follows: Miami, Xenia, Spring Valley, Beavercreek, Bath, Cedarville, Silvercreek, Sugarcreek, Jefferson, Caesarscreek, New Jasper and Ross. The grand average for the county is exceeded by four of the townships.

There seems to have been a dispute in the county for a number of years in regard to which township in the county is entitled to the credit for furnishing the most volunteers. As a matter of fact it is practically impossible to determine such a question, for the reason that many volunteers enlisted from a township and were not credited to it. Spring Valley claims to this day that some of its men enlisted at Xenia and were credited to that township, when as a matter of justice they should have been credited to Spring Valley township.

This brings up the long-standing question as to the history of the famous flag, which might very properly be called a service flag, that was given to the county years ago. The history of this flag is shrouded in mystery, and the most searching investigation has failed to reveal its origin. There are certain undisputed facts connected with it, facts which may briefly be stated. It was given by someone, and not the war department or the United States government in any capacity, to the state which furnished the largest number of troops in the Civil War, and then the state in turn gave the flag to the county which had furnished the most troops in proportion to its military population. The flag came to Ohio and someone in authority at Columbus turned it over to Greene county. For years it has been in the home of the late H. H. Eavey, who, as a member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, acted as custodian of the flag. This much is undisputed. But who originated the idea of giving the flag, when it was given, or the motive back of the gift are some things concerning which there seems to be no definite information. Summing up the vest evidence obtainable, it appears that the flag was the idea of the Republican party, or some group of Republicans; that this group of men conceived the idea of giving such a flag in the campaign of 1868 in order to arouse enthusiasm in behalf of the candidacy of Grant for the presidency. If it was not in 1868, it was certainly not later than the 1872 campaign. Upon coming to Greene county the flag was kept in the court house for a number of years, and then the Lewis Post of Xenia passed a resolution which made it the property of that post, a resolution which has never been changed. It might be said that the flag disappeared for a number of years, but finally turned up again in Xenia.

The flag is made of silk, long since faced with cloth to keep it intact, and

is about fifteen feet in length. It consists of bars of red, white and blue, without the blue field and stars. It has a gilt inscription on it to the effect that it is given to the state and county furnishing the most troops in the Civil War.

OPENING OF THE CIVIL WAR.

The first official notice that the people of Greene county had of the opening of hostilities in the Civil War was given in the issue of the *Xenia Torchlight*, April 17, 1861. When the people of the county picked up this particular issue they were confronted with these ominous words:

THE CRISIS IS UPON US!

TO THE RESCUE!

Let Loyal Men and True Patriots  
Rally to the Call of Their Country.

Following this startling heading the editor of the paper enters into a patriotic discussion of the causes leading up to the war and sets forth in burning language the duty of every able-bodied citizen. Let some of his words be quoted in this connection that the present generation, now in the midst of the greatest war the world has ever seen, may see the spirit which prevailed in the '60s.

The Armed Traitors of the South have triumphed for a time; the Flag of the Union, the Stars and Stripes—the Flag of Beauty and of Glory—has been Dishonored, and the detestable emblem of Treachery and Disunion now floats in its stead from the walls of Sumter!

Let all good men and true gather at the call of their Country—determined to aid the Government in the vindication of the insulted majority of the people. Let all who are for the Union, the Constitution, and the enforcement of the laws, without distinction of Party, Rally this evening at the Court House steps, to Consult and Resolve.

And thus the patriotic editor stirred the people of Greene county to action. He made frequent use of capital letters in order to make himself more emphatic; he indulged in all the exclamation marks, pungent adjectives and other indications of emphasis of the man who wants to make his remarks convincing. His words did not fall on stony ears. Before nightfall of the day the paper came from the press a subscription paper was started to solicit money for equipping volunteers, and John B. Allen headed the list with a donation of one thousand dollars. The venerable William Ellsberry, a lawyer of the town, presented, on behalf of the local bar, a handsome flag to be raised in front of the court house.

The *Torchlight* appeared on Wednesday afternoon with its stirring appeal to the people of the county, and by Saturday, April 20, the whole county was in a frenzy of excitement. The Wednesday night meeting passed a resolution calling a monster mass meeting for the following Saturday afternoon, and the *Torchlight* in its issue of April 24 pronounced it the most enthusiastic meeting the county had ever seen. To quote from the paper again:

A rope was stretched across Main street on which an immense National banner—the Stars and Stripes—was elevated amid the music of the drum and fife and the enthusiastic shouts of the multitude. The Stars and Stripes were also floating from many stores and dwelling houses all over the town. Many persons were called out and addressed the assembled crowd, calling forth great applause. At noon the crowd dispersed for dinner, and a company of newly enlisted volunteers marched through the streets to the music of the fife and drum.

At about half past one, the citizens again assembled in still larger numbers in front of the court house and organized by electing William Ellsberry as chairman. After a brief and patriotic address by the chairman, explanatory of the object of the meeting and setting forth the present alarming state of the country, a committee consisting of W. M. Stark, R. F. Howard and E. H. Munger reported two resolutions, deprecating all political differences, urging united and harmonious action for the putting down of the Rebellion, and pledging the hearty support of Greene county for the defense of the flag.

The afternoon meeting was prolonged until late in the afternoon. The town had not known as exciting a time since the fall of 1812 when the news was received that Hull had surrendered at Detroit. The local militia company was drilling on the square and this but added to the intensity of the afternoon. The sharp commands of the officers echoed up and down the streets and seemed to fill the heart of everyone with a fervor that was indescribable. At least, the editor of the *Torchlight* was unable to find enough adjectives to do the day justice.

While it is not possible in this discussion of the Civil War to give the names of all who went out from the county, yet it seems fitting that the names of the members of the first company should be given here in this connection. On Thursday and Friday, April 18 and 19, John W. Lowe, a local lawyer and a veteran of the Mexican War, was busy enrolling a company, and by Saturday morning had one hundred and ninety-three men who were anxious to get into his company. He picked out the best men for Company A, but immediately another company, known as Company B, was organized.

Company A went to Columbus on Monday, April 22, under charge of Captain Lowe, while Company B had to be content to remain at home to await the call of the state. The *Torchlight* in its issue of April 24, 1861, attempts to describe the scene on Monday when the local company left for Columbus, and in view of similar scenes in 1917 and 1918 it is interesting to note what the editor has to say:

This gallant company was escorted to the cars by an immense crowd of their fellow citizens; all, old and young, of both sexes, joining in wishing the members God speed. Of the scenes which occurred at the cars it is unnecessary to speak. If tears would flow, if lips would tremble and cheeks blanch, it was not because their relatives would call them back from the noble service in which they have embarked, but because even in the line of duty feeling can not be deadened. As the cars moved off, cheer after cheer followed the brave fellows. May God protect them—give them victory over the enemies of the Government, and finally send them back to their friends in safety.

## GREENE COUNTY'S FIRST VOLUNTEERS.

The names of the company are given in the *Torchlight* in this same issue of April 24, 1861. The officers were as follow: Captain, John W. Lowe; first lieutenant, Robert Lytle; second lieutenant, Moses W. Trader; sergeants, William B. Smith, James McCune, George K. Farrington and John Booth; corporals, E. A. Kloosterman, John Scott, Fred B. Snively and Edward E. Ebright. The privates were Robert Batchelder, Albert T. Beall, John E. Brown, John Bailey, James Bailey, William F. Brown, Henry Baunzer, Thomas W. Beacham, Cyrus Bailey, William Bair, Abraham H. Baker, J. S. Clokey, John W. Cline, J. C. Chalmers, Robert Cross, Andrew C. Cruzen, Hiram D. Cline, Lemuel Cline, W. A. Dingess, James H. Davidson, John Donnell, Lewis, H. Dean, David Ellis, Silas R. Ewing, George W. Ebright, George Good, John S. Harper, John A. Harper, Coleman Heaton, Henry Huffine, W. H. Iliff, Thomas W. Jenkins, Daniel P. Jeffries, Abraham King, F. A. Kempt, Ferdinand Kratchner, John W. Kirkwood, D. M. Loy, John Lewis, Peter Leslie, William C. Maxwell, Leigh McClung, Samuel McMillen, Lyman H. McBride, Charles McCarty, William Meshwort, Christopher Mangan, Charles F. Milburn, Joseph McCrary, George W. Manor, Oscar W. Marshall, Thomas McGaughey, John W. McMillan, John McNellidge, William B. Nesbitt, John Norwood, William L. Pegan, Caleb Price, Charles C. Robinson, W. Redding, Alfred Richardson, David M. Reeves, George Sollers, Charles Stevenson, James B. Steen, J. M. Steen, W. H. Sutton, Robert M. Smart, John A. Snyder, David Steele, Joseph S. Stoop, James Thirkield, Warren T. Timberlake, Ludwig Turner, William P. Taylor, Joseph V. Van Eaton, David Wilson, Beard Williams, Jesse Williams, Samuel Walton and S. J. L. Whiteman. This makes eleven commissioned and non-commissioned officers and eighty-two privates—a total of ninety-three men.

## SECOND COMPANY LEAVES XENIA FOR COLUMBUS.

Following the departure of Company A on Monday, April 22, 1861, there were companies of Home Guards organized in each of the four wards of the city of Xenia. As has been stated there was a sufficient number of men enrolled to make two companies, but only one company was taken at first. However, on the following week, on Tuesday, April 30, Company B was called and went on the same day to Columbus to be mustered into the service.

The commissioned and non-commissioned officers of Company B were as follows: Captain, Albert J. Galloway; first lieutenant, Andrew J. Thorpe; second lieutenant, William H. Hivling; sergeants, William H. Harry, W. V. Lawrence, W. L. Taylor, J. S. Morgan; corporals, D. A. Ullery, F. M. Curl, Barney Baker, James Mitchell; privates, John R. Morgan, John W. Lecroy, Henry W. Ford, Peter Curren, Jacob Shirk, J. S. Johnson, Tilman Lloyd,

Silas Goolsbury, Isaac Wolf, Florance Sullivan, James H. Iloff, Henry F. Shuey, Leonard B. Sage, George Lighthiser, M. Gesner, William Shope, Martin McClellan, Jacob W. Ford, Lewis Rahke, J. C. Lovett, Thophilus Anderson, John A. Young, William R. McLaughlin, Charles W. Minser, John B. Jones, John H. Cochran, Morse Moore, C. H. Thompson, George W. Butterfield, Ferdinand Moser, Henry Mentell, George Hollingsburg, J. E. Barrett, W. H. Phillips, Clinton Barnes, Cornelius Cotrell, John W. Brown, John W. Fenner, John Cordingly, Michael Donnelly, Samuel F. Brady, John F. Harris, Hugh McKinney, Thomas Ginn, Joseph M. McCann, Robert E. Hodge, G. W. Barrett, Amos Beason, William H. Harvey, George W. Beard, John Davis, Patrick Doyle, Thomas S. Paris, Fritz Cundert, James Mitchell, Samuel Thompson, Addison Jay, John H. McClellan, Hiram Heaton, Robert McKnight, Benjamin Seavers, William A. Borton, C. Lawrence, William A. Butler, Isaac T. Collier, William Bayliss, James Elam, Alfred Dean, D. Bush, Thomas Bush, William Norris, Samuel N. Cook, W. Yeo, A. T. Lloyd, J. M. Ellmore, J. M. Ford.

Of this large number of Greene county men but few are now living. When they were taken to Columbus they were mustered in as Company E of the Twelfth Regiment, Ohio Volunteers, Company A from Xenia being mustered in as Company D of the same regiment. The first death among the Greene county volunteers was that of William C. Maxwell, who took sick during the first week at Columbus, was brought home to Xenia and died on April 29, just a week from the time Company A left the town.

On May 2, 1861, Captain Lowe, of Company A, was elected colonel of the Twelfth Regiment, and at the same time Robert Lytle was made captain of Company A, and Private Leigh McClung was elected first lieutenant. Dr. John G. Kyle of Xenia was appointed regimental surgeon of the Twelfth Regiment. The regiment was eventually sent into West Virginia and in that state, at the battle of Carnifax Ferry on September 18, 1861, Colonel Lowe was shot through the forehead with a rifle ball and instantly killed, while leading a charge of his regiment through the woods. He was the first field officer of Ohio to be killed in the war. John Williamson Lowe was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, November 15, 1809, and when eleven years of age was apprenticed to a printer in New York City. When only fourteen years of age he joined a cadet company in that city, and from that time until his death he was interested in military matters. In 1833 he located at Batavia, Ohio, where he worked in a printing office and at the same time studied law under Judge Fishback. He was soon admitted to the bar, and having courted the judge's daughter while studying in her father's office, married her about the time he was admitted to the bar. It might be mentioned that his widow became the first woman in Xenia to be appointed post-

master of the city, being appointed by President Grant for two terms. When the Mexican War opened, Colonel Lowe was importuned to raise a company from Batavia. He finally consented, although his wife and friends tried to dissuade him from doing it, and became its captain, serving throughout the war at the front. He returned to Batavia in 1848 and practiced law there until 1854. He then located in Dayton, but a year later settled in Xenia, where he lived until he went to the front in the Civil War. He raised the first company in Greene county, was elected its captain, and on April 19, 1861, reported to Columbus with his company. He was shortly afterward commissioned colonel of the Twelfth Ohio Volunteers and went with his regiment to West Virginia. At the expiration of their three-months service, he reorganized the regiment for the three-years service. His regiment saw heavy fighting during the summer and fall of 1861 in West Virginia, and in that state he gave his life for his country.

#### OTHER ENLISTMENTS FROM THE COUNTY.

It is not profitable to enter into an extended discussion of the part the county played in the Civil War. The volunteers from the county found their way into about seventy-five different regiments of Ohio and other states, the 3,554 enlisted men being so widely scattered that it would be impossible to follow the history of their several respective regiments. Furthermore, the summary of Robinson in his "After Thirty Years" gives all the enlistments of the county, and this volume can be referred to by those seeking definite data concerning any of the men going from the county.

There was only one regiment organized in the county, the Seventy-fourth being mobilized at Xenia in October, 1861. Nearly seven complete companies of this regiment were recruited in Greene county, this being the largest number of men the county had in any one regiment. The Seventy-fourth remained in Xenia until February 24, 1862, when it was ordered to Camp Chase at Columbus. The regiment served throughout the war, being mustered out on July 18, 1865. Col. Granville Moody, a preacher of Greene county after the war, was in command of this regiment.

Two other regiments with heavy enlistments from Greene county were the Ninety-fourth and the One Hundred and Tenth. The former was organized at Piqua in July, 1862, and taken from there to Kentucky for actual service at the front on August 28, 1862. It was mustered out at Washington, D. C., on June 6, 1865. The One Hundred and Tenth regiment was also organized at Piqua, its mobilization occurring in October, 1862. It participated in twenty-one engagements before its final mustering out on June 25, 1865.

GREENE COUNTY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE CIVIL WAR.

The following summary presents the commissioned officers of each township as compiled by Robinson in his volume, "After Thirty Years." The name, rank, company, regiment and branch of service is indicated in the tabulation.

BATH TOWNSHIP.

Cook, Charles W.....	1st Lieut., Co. H.....	44th Infantry
Emmick, John C.....	1st Lieut., Co. K.....	154th Infantry
Hawk, Peter A.....	1st Lieut., Co. H.....	8th Cavalry
Hebble, Joseph K.....	Surgeon .....	55th Infantry
Kershner, Hezekiah .....	1st Lieut., Co. A.....	94th Infantry
Kuhn, Jacob K.....	Captain Co. C.....	1st Cavalry
Miller, John E.....	1st Lieut., Co. F.....	110th Infantry
Rockafeld, Anthony C.....	1st Lieut., Co. M.....	8th Cavalry
Retter, Edward E.....	2d Lieut., Co. H.....	44th Infantry
Spangler, Aaron .....	Lieut.-Col. ....	110th Infantry
Shaffer, Henry C.....	Captain, Co. H.....	44th Infantry
Stutesman, John M.....	1st Lieut., Co. G.....	24th Infantry
Taylor, Lewis .....	Captain, Co. E.....	45th Infantry
Wilson, Uriah .....	Captain, Co. K.....	154th Infantry
Miller, Joseph D.....	2d Lieut., Co. A.....	44th Infantry

BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP.

Bouck, Joseph F.....	Captain, Co. E.....	154th Infantry
Barney, Benjamin H.....	1st Lieut., Co. E.....	154th Infantry
Darst, Benjamin F.....	2d Lieut., Co. B.....	154th Infantry
Fisher, Joseph .....	Major .....	74th Infantry
Glotfelter, William .....	1st Lieut., Co. H.....	12th Infantry
Guthrie, Henry B.....	Captain, Co. B.....	154th Infantry
Herring, Henry H.....	Captain, Co. E.....	74th Infantry
Herring, John J.....	1st Lieut., Co. A.....	154th Infantry
Hanes, John M.....	1st Lieut., Co. E.....	74th Infantry
Kingery, John .....	1st Lieut., Co. E.....	94th Infantry
Nogle, William H.....	1st Lieut., Co. K.....	20th Infantry
Snyder, William M.....	1st Lieut., Co. E.....	74th Infantry
Steele, David .....	Captain, Co. E.....	94th Infantry
Tobias, John W.....	2d Lieut., Co. E.....	154th Infantry

CAESARSCREEK TOWNSHIP.

Ary, Joel .....	Captain, Co. H.....	154th Infantry
Smith, Lucian .....	1st Lieut., Co. H.....	154th Infantry
Thomas, James .....	2d Lieut., Co. H.....	154th Infantry

CEDARVILLE.

Crain, John R.....	Captain .....	10th Battery
Collett, Daniel .....	1st Lieut., Co. B.....	40th Infantry
Frazer, Andrew S.....	1st Lieut., Co. H.....	34th Infantry
Frazer, James K.....	1st Lieut. ....	185th Infantry
Galbreth, Samuel A.....	2d Lieut. ....	10th Battery

Gilmore, James .....1st Lieut. ....10th Battery  
 Howell, Samuel .....1st Lieut., Co. D.....44th Infantry  
 Kyle, Thomas B.....Captain, Co. C.....60th Infantry

## JEFFERSON.

Lyda, Samuel .....1st Lieut., Co. H.....1st Va. Cavalry  
 Pollock, Samuel F.....2d Lieut., Co. C.....31st Infantry

## MIAMI.

Burkholder, Thomas B.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....8th Cavalry  
 Badger, Joseph .....Captain, Co. C.....8th Cavalry  
 Badger, Nichols .....Major .....8th Cavalry  
 Badger, Nichols .....Captain, Co. C.....44th Infantry  
 Hirst, Thomas C.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....180th Infantry  
 Peters, Matthew .....Major .....74th Infantry  
 Read, Newton M.....1st Lieut., Co. C.....5th Cavalry  
 Read, Jasper W.....2d Lieut., Co. A.....154th Infantry  
 Ransom, William S.....General .....Infantry  
 Rice, Charles S.....Captain .....17th Battery  
 Rice, Edward .....2d Lieut., Co. D.....44th Infantry  
 Shaw, William L.....1st Lieut., Co. F.....110th Infantry  
 Swope, James W.....Captain, Co. G.....75th Infantry  
 Scammon, E. Parker.....Brigadier General .....Infantry  
 Tulley, Lysander W.....Lieut.-Col. ....8th Cavalry  
 Tedford, Frank J.....Captain, Co. B.....74th Infantry  
 Wilson, Joseph E.....Lieut.-Col. ....154th Infantry  
 Wade, William H.....Captain, Co. K.....31st Infantry

## NEW JASPER.

Moore, Daniel D.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....110th Infantry

## ROSS.

Bolen, John C.....1st Lieut., Co. C.....60th Infantry  
 Ballard, Joseph H.....Captain, Co. H.....74th Infantry

## SILVERCREEK.

Adams, Thos. H.....1st Lieut., Co. A.....74th Infantry  
 Baker, S. E. W.....1st Lieut., Co. B.....186th Infantry  
 Bell, Thomas C.....Major, Co. A.....74th Infantry  
 Ballard, Alexander S.....Major .....74th Infantry  
 Dodson, Charles C.....1st Lieut., Co. F.....74th Infantry  
 Hauser, Jerry .....Captain, Co. D.....186th Infantry  
 McGinnis, William .....Captain, Co. A.....74th Infantry  
 McMillan, John .....Captain, Co. A.....74th Infantry  
 Sutton, William H.....Captain, Co. I.....31st Infantry

## SPRING VALLEY.

Barnett, Edward R.....1st Lieut., Co. K.....74th Infantry  
 Clark, Thomas S.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....110th Infantry  
 Colvin, G. M.....1st Lieut., Co. K.....149th Infantry  
 Daugherty, John F.....2d Lieut., Co. G.....154th Infantry  
 Good, George W.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....12th Infantry  
 Seiss, John A.....Captain, Co. I.....154th Infantry



Schnebley, Frederick	.....2d Lieut., Co. D.....	12th Infantry
Smith, John W.	.....2d Lieut., Co. H.....	2d Heavy Artillery
Walton, Samuel	.....2d Lieut., Co. E.....	94th Infantry
Williamson, David W.	.....1st Lieut., Co. G.....	154th Infantry

## SUGARCREEK

Austin, Francis A.	.....2d Lieut., Co. G.....	34th Infantry
Clark, Henry	.....2d Lieut., Co. D.....	110th Infantry
Finley, Robert C.	.....1st Lieut., Co. E.....	74th Infantry
Holmes, Joseph	.....1st Lieut., Co. F.....	93d Infantry
Kirby, Thomas	.....Captain, Co. E.....	74th Infantry
Marshall, Jesse	.....2d Lieut., Co. F.....	154th Infantry

## XENIA.

Armstrong, Wm. G.	.....Captain, Co. C.....	74th Infantry
Armstrong, John F.	.....1st Lieut., Co. C.....	1st Heavy Artillery
Barnes, George A.	.....Captain, Co. B.....	1st Arkansas Infantry
Beachem, Wm. H.	.....1st Lieut., Co. I.....	31st Infantry
Beall, George W.	.....2d Lieut., Co. K.....	154th Infantry
Bell, John A.	.....1st Lieut., Co. E.....	94th Infantry
Binkley, Otha H.	.....Lieut.-Col. ....	110th Infantry
Baldwin, John W.	.....1st Lieut., Co. C.....	74th Infantry
Barrows, John I.	.....2d Lieut., Co. C.....	74th Infantry
Canfield, George C.	.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....	154th Infantry
Cosley, George W.	.....2d Lieut., Co. F.....	54th Infantry
Corry, James B.	.....Captain, Co. A.....	154th Infantry
Davidson, David T.	.....Captain, Co. H.....	94th Infantry
Drake, E. P.	.....Captain, Co. E.....	11th Cavalry
DeHaven, Frank	.....2d Lieut., Co. F.....	110th Infantry
Ewing, Silas	.....1st Lieut., Co. E.....	1st Infantry
Feurle, J. G.	.....2d Lieut., Co. H.....	74th Infantry
Galloway, Albert	.....Captain, Co. E.....	12th Infantry
Galloway, Wm. C.	.....1st Lieut., Co. C.....	74th Infantry
Galloway, Samuel	.....Captain, Co. F.....	16th U. S. C. I.
Gift, Thomas	.....2d Lieut., Co. B.....	159th Infantry
Guthrie, Henry C.	.....Captain, Co. D.....	154th Infantry
Gowan, Andrew	.....Captain, Co. H.....	94th Infantry
Gage, Joseph B.	.....1st Lieut. ....	10th Battery
Hivling, John A.	.....1st Lieut., Co. H.....	94th Infantry
Hivling, William H.	.....1st Lieut., Co. B.....	12th Infantry
Hypes, Fletcher	.....1st Lieut., Co. I.....	39th Infantry
Hamill, Joseph	.....Captain, Co. C.....	74th Infantry
Jones, William A.	.....2d Lieut., Co. D.....	110th Infantry
Kyle, James	.....Captain, Co. H.....	94th Infantry
Kyle, John G.	.....Surgeon.....	17th and 65th Infantry
King, Richard	.....Captain, Co. F.....	154th Infantry
King, Richard	.....2d Lieut., Co. B.....	74th Infantry
King, Abraham	.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....	12th Infantry
Kealhofer, George	.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....	186th Infantry
Lytle, Robert	.....Captain, Co. D.....	12th Infantry
Lewis, John	.....Captain, Co. K.....	128th Infantry
Lewis, John	.....Captain, Co. E.....	12th Infantry
McCann, James	.....1st Lieut., Co. B.....	74th Infantry
McCroskey, Joseph	.....2d Lieut., Co. K.....	128th Infantry

McDowell, Austin	.....Captain, Co. L.....	128th Infantry
McDowell, Austin	.....Captain, Co. D.....	74th Infantry
McMillen, Daniel	.....1st Lieut., Co. F.....	154th Infantry
McMillen, Samuel	.....2d Lieut., Co. D.....	186th Infantry
McElwain, Stewart	.....Major	110th Infantry
McClung, Leigh W.	.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....	12th Infantry
McCreary, Joseph	.....1st Lieut., Co. K.....	184th Infantry
McClung, John N.	.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....	74th Infantry
Marshall, George	.....1st Lieut., Co. G.....	54th Infantry
Miller, Andrew C.	.....Captain, Co. B.....	154th Infantry
Miller, Andrew	.....2d Lieut., Co. B.....	12th Infantry
Morris, Alfred	.....1st Lieut., Co. G.....	54th Infantry
Matthews, James H.	.....1st Lieut., Co. B.....	154th Infantry
Mitchell, James	.....1st Lieut., Co. E.....	94th Infantry
Myers, James	.....Captain	Indiana Battery
Nesbit, Albert	.....Captain, Co. A.....	Infantry
Nesbit, Albert	.....1st Lieut., Co. F.....	34th Infantry
Newcomb, William	.....1st Lieut.	10th Battery
Oldham, Joseph F.	.....2d Lieut., Co. K.....	193d Infantry
Owens, Samuel T.	.....Captain, Co. C.....	74th Infantry
Poland, Samuel M.	.....1st Lieut., Co. D.....	74th Infantry
Pool, Oscar	.....2d Lieut., Co. B.....	154th Infantry
Stevenson, Robert	.....2d Lieut., Co. C.....	74th Infantry
Scott, John	.....1st Lieut., Co. B.....	74th Infantry
Smith, William B.	.....Captain, Co. B.....	12th Infantry
Snively, David S.	.....Surgeon	U. S.
Seaman, Francis	.....Captain	10th Battery
Torrence, Herny.	.....Captain, Co. D.....	58th Indiana
Tremble, Alexander	.....Captain, Co. D.....	110th Infantry
Trader, Moses W.	.....2d Lieut., Co. D.....	12th Infantry
Trader, Alfred L.	.....1st Lieut., Co. H.....	94th Infantry
Terry, Henry	.....Major	24th Infantry
Terry, Henry	.....Captain, Co. G.....	24th Infantry
Thorp, Andrew J.	.....1st Lieut., Co. E.....	12th Infantry
VanEaton, Joseph B.	.....Captain, Co. B.....	110th Infantry
Watt, George M.	.....Surgeon	154th Infantry
Worden, James M.	.....2d Lieut., Co. G.....	74th Infantry
Weaver, Perry A.	.....Captain, Co. B.....	74th Infantry

#### THE FLAG OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH.

After the flag of the Thirty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, had been through forty-one battles and had had nine color-bearers shot under it, it was captured at Beverley, West Virginia, with the regiment on January 11, 1865. When Richmond was entered by the federal troops on April 3, 1865, Colonel DePeyster, who raised the flag of the Seventy-fourth New York on the dome of the capitol in that city, discovered the flag of the Thirty-fourth in a boot as he was descending from the dome. For many years it hung in the trophy room of the Seventy-fourth New York, but was finally restored to the survivors of the regiment. Numbered among the members of the Thirty-fourth Ohio were several Greene county men, among whom were S. W. Weakley, Charles Hamilton, John Hopping, T. B. Jobe,

Mart Howe, George W. Ebright and H. H. Hale. While this regiment, with the Eighth Ohio Cavalry, was stationed at Beverley, West Virginia, it was surprised and captured, January 11, 1865, and marched off to Richmond, where the men were confined in Libby prison until their exchange on February 14, 1865.

#### THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

The Spanish-American War of 1898 again found Greene county to the front, but this time it was a company of colored men who represented the county. They did not see any active service on the field of battle, but they were ready to do their duty and if they had been given the opportunity to show what they could do they would undoubtedly have acquitted themselves with credit to themselves and honor to the county which sent them. There was no white company from the county in the war.

Most of the colored men from Greene county were members of Company C, Ninth Battalion, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, although there were a few who were members of one of the other three companies of this battalion. The county furnished the major of this battalion, Charles Young, a graduate of West Point, and at the time detailed to Wilberforce as military instructor. He was a first lieutenant in the Ninth Cavalry, United States Army, at the opening of the war, but was granted leave of absence on May 14, 1898, to become major of the Ninth Battalion, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Wilson Ballard, also of Wilberforce, was a second lieutenant, but served as adjutant to Major Young, later, August 19, 1898, becoming battalion adjutant.

The movements of the Ninth Battalion during the progress of the war may be briefly summarized as follows: On receipt of orders from the governor, dated April 25, 1898, Companies A, B and C assembled at their home stations on April 26 and on the same day left for Columbus. They were mustered into the United States service on May 14 and remained at Columbus drilling until the 19th of the month. They were then taken to Camp Alger, Falls Church, Virginia, where they continued training until August 16. Their next change of location found them at Camp Meade, Middletown, Pennsylvania, where they remained from August 17 to November 14. While here Frank Burton deserted from Company C on November 12. While the battalion was being taken from Camp Meade to Camp Marion, Summerville, South Carolina, Alexander Richard, another member of Company C, deserted, November 15. These were the only two desertions on the official records of Greene county volunteers. The battalion was stationed at Camp Marion from November 17, 1898, until it was mustered out of the service on January 28, 1899. Two men of Company C died at Camp Marion: Harmer H. Ellison, November 23, 1898; Charles L. Ladd, November

27, 1898. It should be mentioned that Company D, which contained only one enlistment from the county, was not mustered in until July 8, 1898, and joined the battalion on the following day at Camp Alger.

Company A was recruited at Springfield, Company B at Columbus, Company C at Xenia and Company D at Cleveland. Company A had one volunteer from Greene county, Woodson P. Welch, who was mustered out as second lieutenant. Company B had three recruits from the county: Arthur A. Brown and Charles F. Mitchell, corporals; Charles Howard, private. Company D contained one Greene county volunteer, Frank Porter, a private.

Company C was recruited at Xenia and contained seventy-one men from Greene county, practically all being enrolled from Xenia. Wilberforce and Cedarville furnished a few. The officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, included twenty-two, the privates numbering forty-nine. The officers were as follows: Captain, Harry H. Robinson; first lieutenant, James W. Smith; second lieutenant, James Braselton; first sergeant, William Lindsay; sergeants, Frank Washington, William G. Johnson, Henry Bowen and Wilson Hudson; corporals, John L. Broadice, William McElroy, James Smith, Edward C. Oglesby, LaVolta Phelps, James E. Maxwell, George E. Cowels, Harvey Underwood and Louis Smith; cook, Calvin Pearson; musicians, Arthur Allen and James S. Haggard; artificer, Hugh Travis; wagner, George McClure. The privates of Company C were Peter Alexander, Leon Allen, Lee Anderson, Wesley Anderson, William H. Anderson, William Archer, William Battles, Charles Bush, John Byrd, Charles W. Carter, William Coles, Curtis Hampton, James Daunton, James F. Davis, Tumes Femules, John W. Franklin, Tecumseh Goings, Effron Greenway, Orgon A. Guy, Fred A. Harris, Clayton Howard, Fred R. Howard, John P. Hudson, Edward Jackson, Thomas Jenkins, William Matthews, James E. McFarland, Ellis McMillen, George A. Reed, Charles Robinson, James Robinson, Sidney Rodgers, Prattis Shorter, William A. Smith, William Steele, Paschal Tolbert, William A. Warrick, James H. Watson, Horace H. Wells and Grant Winslow.

All of the above named privates were mustered out at the close of the war. The following privates were discharged for physical disability during the progress of the war: Henry Bush, Bert Jamison, John Jenkins, Walter S. Logan and Hayes Valentine. Harmer H. Ellison and Charles L. Ladd died during their enlistment. There were twelve of the men from Wilberforce in the war: Emanuel D. Bass, now a practicing physician in Mexico, and captain of the Forty-ninth United States Volunteers in the Philippines, who became the first adjutant of the Ninth Battalion in the Spanish-American War; Wilson Ballard, who succeeded Bass as sergeant major of the

Ninth Battalion, and later became a first lieutenant in the Forty-eighth United States Volunteers in the Philippines; Charles Jackson, who succeeded Ballard as sergeant major of the Ninth Battalion; sergeants, Bert Taylor, E. P. Fifer and Charles Burroughs; Arthur A. Brown, corporal and in the band; privates, Woodson P. Welch, Charles Mitchell, Prattis Shorter, William Hamilton and Charles Howard.

After the close of the war the colored company maintained its organization for a number of years. The company had been in existence for a number of years before the Spanish-American War, being known as the Martin Guards for several years, the name being given the company in honor of John P. Martin, a well-known citizen of Xenia. For various reasons the company was disbanded some time before 1898, but was later reorganized under the name of the Schmidt Guards, the new name being in honor of Edward H. Schmidt, a grocer of Xenia. It was known by this name locally when it was finally mustered out of the service on April 5, 1908. After the close of the Spanish-American War the company, as before stated, continued its organization, Edward C. Oglesby becoming captain. It seems that the reason for the disbanding of the company in 1908 arose from the fact that the captain had not made a proper accounting of the money which he had received from the state. It was charged, and subsequent investigation substantiated the charge, that he had received the money from the adjutant-general of the state to pay the members of his company for their drill service, but had failed to turn it over to the men. Upon this charge being proved he was called upon to make good the money advanced by the state, which he promptly did, and, with this action on his part the company was mustered out of the service of the state on April 5, 1908. Company C is now a Dayton colored company.

#### COMPANY I ON THE MEXICAN BORDER.

In the summer of 1916 the United States seemed on the verge of war with Mexico, and so threatening was the situation that National Guard units from all over the country were ordered to Texas to be ready for action in case war should be declared. Ohio was called upon to mobilize its local militia companies, the order for the mobilization for Company I of Xenia being received on June 19. The company remained at Xenia until July 3 when it was ordered to Camp Willis at Columbus. It was there undergoing training until September 7, when it left for the Mexican border. It was stationed in Texas until March 21, 1917, when it was ordered to entrain for Ft. Riley, Kansas, to be mustered out, but before reaching there orders were received to proceed direct to Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis. Arriving at the latter place on March 26, it remained there only two days, being

ordered to Kings Mills, Warren county, Ohio, for guard duty at the powder mills at that place.

On April 6, 1917, Congress declared war on Germany and on the following day Company I was divided into five detachments and sent to as many different points. One detachment in charge of Captain Younkin was sent to Richmond, Indiana, where it performed guard duty. While here Captain Younkin devoted all of his time to securing enlistments for all branches of the military service, and it was the heavy work he did there in getting more than one hundred enlistments which undermined his health to the extent that he was later forced to leave the service. Another detachment left Kings Mills, Ohio, on April 7 for Lawrenceburg, Indiana; another went to Milan, Indiana; another went to Osgood, Indiana; while the fifth detachment was ordered back to Xenia to open up recruiting quarters for the company. An officer and two privates were sent to Xenia. The detachments in Indiana all performed guard duty, most of their attention being given to railroad property.

The entire regiment of which Company I was a part was ordered to assemble at Cincinnati on August 1, 1917, and on August 5 they were taken to Camp Sherman at Chillicothe to guard the barracks then in process of construction at Chillicothe. On October 10 they were sent to Camp Sheridan, near Montgomery, Alabama, where they were still stationed in March, 1918.

As has been stated, the company was in Texas from September 10, 1916, to March 21, 1917. During this time, it was engaged in drilling with the other companies of the regiment, and performing such guard duties as fell to its lot. None of the men set foot on the soil of Mexico, and not one fired his gun at the enemy across the Rio Grande. None of the boys from Greene county died, although William Fitzwater was shot through the head on the rifle range. Beyond suffering from a headache for a few days, he experienced no inconvenience from the wound.

The career of the company since August, 1917, has been uneventful. During the summer of 1917 strenuous efforts were made to raise it to the full war strength, but as near as can now be ascertained, only sixty-three men from Greene county are with the old organization. It has lost its identity as Company I, Third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and is now known as Company I, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, National Guard. Captain Younkin was in poor health during the summer and fall of 1917, but kept hoping all the time that he could regain his health and rejoin his company. While he was absent from his company, it was in charge of First Lieutenant Spahr. By the first of December, it was seen that the condition of Captain Younkin was not going to permit his return to

his company within the near future. He was called before the medical board at Columbus for a physical examination, and received his discharge for physical disability on December 5, 1917. Captain Bunge, of Cincinnati, was transferred from another company and placed in charge of Company I.

The local draft board has no records concerning this company, but from other sources a list of the Greene county boys with the company has been compiled. This list follows: Homer C. Spahr, Russell Johns, Nathan S. Clark, Ralph Gordon, William T. Little, John R. Poland, Carl Jeffryes, William F. Shoemaker, William Fitzwater, Walter Nickerson, Howard W. Bishop, Jesse E. Hill, Jesse W. Jones, Charles Miller, Cam Merritt, Orville Merritt, Clarence T. Smedley, James Nick, Cecil Baxter, Ray C. Blangy, Jentry Cain, Raymond Carnine, Glenn Davis, Millard O. Frame, Logan Holloway, Samuel Hardy, Adam Hartman, Earl Hess, Nye Justice, Ray Leach, Carl McBride, Albert Millburn, John Moon, Edward Mullinix, Floyd W. Nolan, Elmer Pemberton, Niche Piete, Teddy A. Shanks, Charles Sullender, Homer Toner, Clyde Thompson, Jay H. Whitt, Glenn Wilson, Alvie Woods, Louis E. Young, John Townsley, Jordon Milburn and J. E. Pemberton.

Company I had been organized in 1900 by Charles L. Buell, and he had remained in charge as captain until June, 1904, at which time Harry C. Armstrong was commissioned captain. Captain Armstrong resigned in May, 1912, and on July 29, of the same year, Daniel G. Younkin was commissioned captain. When Company I left Xenia for Columbus, on July 3, 1916, it numbered ninety-two men, but a large number of these failed to pass the required physical examination at Camp Willis, and were sent back home. As a matter of fact, none of the National Guard unit of Ohio were able to secure enough volunteers to bring their organization up to war strength. Company I not only lost a large number of the original ninety-two by reason of physical disqualification, but they also had to share the few members they had left with other companies of the Third Regiment.

The official roster of Company I, as it was organized for duty in Texas in 1916-1917, shows that it had only 35 men in all, 13 officers and 22 privates. Of this number 5 were not from Greene county. The roster of the company is as follow: Captain, Daniel G. Younkin; first lieutenant, Homer C. Spahr; first sergeant, Floyd V. Miller; quartermaster sergeant, Clark A. Beatty; sergeant, Nathan S. Clark; corporals, Ralph Maulfair, William T. Little, Carl Jeffryes; musician, Clarence T. Smedley; cooks, Orville Merritt, Cam Merritt; privates, Herbert Beal, Ray Blangy, Forest W. Dunkle, David Eagle, William Fitzwater, Ralph Gordon, John Gross, Samuel Hardy, Jesse Hill, Frank Hiserman, Napoleon Jillson, Jesse W. Jones, James Justice, Ray Leach, Eli McKinney, Charles Miller, James Nick, Walter Nickerson and Elmer Pemberton.

## GREENE COUNTY IN THE GREAT WORLD WAR.

At the time this volume goes to the press the United States is in the midst of the greatest war the world has ever known, a war which began between two European nations in 1914 and has since drawn more than twenty nations into its vortex. The immensity of this struggle baffles our comprehension, but it is in our very midst in the spring of 1918—it is taking boys from Greene county every week. Naturally, the anxious inquirer may well ask for an account of the incidents which brought all this woe into the world.

On June 28, 1914, Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria, heir to the throne, was assassinated by someone, and it was alleged that the deed was committed by a Serbian. The killing was immediately followed by the Austrian government calling upon Serbia for reparation and the granting of certain demands which were drawn up in such a manner as to be extremely humiliating to that little country. Serbia gave every assurance that she would grant all that Austria asked, but even had Serbia offered herself as a gift to Austria it is doubtful if the war could have been averted. There is no question now that Germany was behind the whole scheme, and that nothing that Serbia could have done would have affected the future actions of Germany and Austria. And thus the war precipitated, the killing of this libertine was simply the excuse for the opening of hostilities, but the underlying causes of the war are to be found elsewhere.

It is not the purpose of this discussion to enter into an explanation as to how and why the United States was drawn into this world-wide struggle. The story has been told and retold over and over again. It is sufficient to say that our country kept out of the war as long as it could consistent with national honor, but that when the time came when we must act, we were ready to accept the challenge. Nation after nation was brought into the struggle against Austria, Germany, Turkey and Bulgaria; beginning with Servia, they entered the war in the following order: Belgium, France, England, Russia, Italy, San Marino, Roumania, Montenegro, Japan, United States, Brazil, Siam, Portugal, Panama, Arabia, Monaco, Greece, Bolivia, Cuba and Nicaragua.

The unrestricted submarine warfare campaign inaugurated by Germany in the spring of 1917 will undoubtedly be set down in world history as the thing which finally led the United States to take up arms. President Wilson read his famous message to Congress on April 2, 1917, and four days later Congress declared war on Germany. As soon as this was done Congress began making preparations to take an active part in the struggle. Act after act was passed by Congress in an effort to put the country in a position to become a prominent factor in bringing the war to a close as quickly as possible. A loan was authorized, very appropriately called the Liberty Loan,



and within a very short time the two-billion dollar loan was heavily oversubscribed. In the meantime, in order to provide for an army of at least a million men, Congress passed a conscription act which provided for the registration of all men of the United States between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one, inclusive. June 5, 1917, was designated as the day on which this registration was to take place and on that day nearly ten million men were registered. The number of registrants in Greene county was 2,244.

Another important act was the provision made for a series of camps for the training of officers, and two such instruction periods of three months each were held in the summer and fall of 1917. In January, 1918, a third officers training camp was opened, the candidates for commissions being largely those drafted men who had shown capacity for leadership. Greene county had a number of men in both the first and second camps of 1917, most of the men taking the training at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, while others were at Ft. Sheridan, Chicago, and Fortress Monroe, Virginia. As near as can be determined the following represents the Greene county men who received commissions at one or the other of the training camps in 1917: Charles L. Darlington, captain, infantry, U. S. National Army; Thomas L. Fess, first lieutenant, infantry, U. S. National Army; Wilson W. Galloway, first lieutenant, Ordnance Department; Allen J. Carpe, first lieutenant, U. S. National Army; George F. Stutsman, second lieutenant, U. S. Cavalry; Orris R. Jones, second lieutenant, infantry, U. S. National Army; Forest Dunkle, second lieutenant, infantry, U. S. National Army; Burdette Early, second lieutenant, infantry, U. S. National Army.

The Medical Reserve Corps has enlisted a number of officers from Greene county, the following list being furnished by Dr. W. A. Galloway, of the draft board: Captain, Lawrence Shields; first lieutenants, Benjamin R. McClellan, Harold Messenger, Frank Bailey, Harry O. Whitaker and Winfield Scott Ritenour, the latter being with the United States Sanitary Department. Clarence North Routzong and Eber Reynolds are first lieutenants in the Dental Reserve Corps. There is a provision whereby those students now in medical schools are listed separately, the idea of the government being that they should remain in college and finish their courses, or at least attain such proficiency in their studies that they would be qualified for actual service. Those from Greene county coming under this class are the following: Halford Conwell, University of Cincinnati; W. M. Ankeney, Cleveland; Robert L. Crawford, University of Iowa; Herman L. Hunter, colored, University of Nashville; L. W. Turner, colored, Howard University; Charles Edwin Galloway, University of Chicago; Waldo H. Zeller. Edwin F. Gowdy is in a dental college.

A colored officers training camp was located at Des Moines, Iowa, and

twelve men from Wilberforce received commissions from this camp in 1917. All of these men were students of Wilberforce University or had been students in former years, and while few of them came originally from Greene county yet they should be mentioned in this connection. Arthur Brown is a resident of Xenia. The complete list follows: Captain, D. K. Cherry and Abram L. Simpson; first lieutenants, Lawrence Simpson, Charles Reed, Arthur Brown, Samuel A. Hull and Francis Gow; second lieutenants, Charles S. Bough, Samuel Hutchinson, James O. Jones, James Scott and Charles Robinson.

The third officers training camp at Funston, Kansas, resulted in nineteen more men of Wilberforce receiving commissions: George Lee Gaines, William H. York, James Johnson, Morris Carter, Edwin Anderson, Coit C. Ford, Treadway Streets, Russell Smith, Harry W. Sheppard, Julius P. Matthews, Clay Hunter, Loregezo Burford, Grant A. Williams, George Clark, George Anderson, Theodore Davis, Ottoway Morris, Lawrence Underwood and William Broughton.

#### SELECTIVE DRAFT IN GREENE COUNTY.

The number of men in Greene county who registered on June 5, 1917, was 2,244. From this number the county was asked to furnish 246 as its first quota toward the 687,000 men which the War Department originally contemplated inducting into some branch of the military service. No other nation in all the world's history has attempted to raise an army on the plan adopted by the United States in the summer of 1917. An army had to be raised—and raised on short notice. The experience of the past in this country had shown that it was impossible to raise a volunteer army of any size within a short time, and it was imperative that the country have an army of a million men training within as short a time as possible. After carefully considering the matter from every viewpoint Congress finally decided upon what is known as the selective draft. Following the registration of all men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one as before stated, it was planned to draw all these names by lot, thereby insuring that no favors could be shown in the conscription.

Friday, July 13, 1917, was such a day as the United States had never before known. It was on this day that ten million men were to have their numbers drawn at Washington, and when No. 258 was first pulled out of the box by Secretary of War Baker this meant that every man in the United States having that number was to be the first in his district to be called for service. It is probable that newspapers issued more extras on this day than they ever had before in their history. And when the drawing was finally completed every registered man in the United States knew the order in which he was to be called for service.

The first call of the President was for 687,000 men, and this total was divided among the states in proportion to their population, the states in turn to raise their quota by apportioning the number they had to furnish among their several counties. For this new army, most appropriately known now as the National Army, Greene county was called upon to furnish 246 men as its quota under this first call. And as this is being written the county has already more than filled its quota. This does not include a large number of volunteer enlistments in all branches of the military service, neither does it include the local militia company. But the local draft board has official recognition only of the men that come under the selective draft, and keeps no records of the scores of other enlistments.

#### GREENE COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GREAT WORLD WAR.

The first call for the selective draft came to Greene county on September 6, 1917, twelve men being the county's quota. These men in the order of their draft number were as follow: A. Burdsall Creswell, Jaul B. Turnbull, Cameron M. Ross, Arthur Hover, Morris Sharp, Bernard Stire, Delbert Eugene Allen, Morey Whalen, Lawrence Swabb, Eber Jones Reynolds, J. H. Randall and Ray Lucas. The men were sent to Camp Sherman at Chillicothe, Ohio, on the afternoon of September 6, 1917.

The second call was made on September 19, 1917, and at this time ninety-eight were sent to Camp Sherman. Their names follow: David F. Shroades, Nobel Caraway, George A. Geiger, James Haley, Oscar E. Bailey, John Wallace Collins, John Lewis Cyphers, Paul Boniface Evers, Alvie Potts, George Mees, Denzil M. Earley, Homer Earl Short, Charles William Blakely, Ray W. Littler, Ralph Cline, Charles E. Lowry, Joseph Lawson Fealey, Harley Scammahorn, George A. Dignam, Harry Roach, Clyde John Kussmaul, Ray M. Smith, Edward Gaffin, Raymond G. Stutsman, William L. Rockfield, Edward Fox, Fred Belden, Jacob S. Levalley, Paul Hull, Ralph Harrison Jenks, Clay Cassius Mauch, John A. Fake, Lester M. Hurley, Albert Ray Littler, Forest G. Hurley, Jess J. Strimple, William Marshall Hurless, Wilton Earley, David Collins Bradfute, Cecil F. Tavenner, Arthur Leroy Heaton, John Howard Young, Oliver William Littler, Ralph Francis Feirstine, Walter F. Lunn, Chauncy W. Webster, Weldon Clayton Hatfield, Everett William Harvey, James Jacob Curlett, John Gilphen Hays, Ruby Russell Carter, Thomas Gilroy, John William Miller, Homer David Shaw, Elmer J. Taylor (rejected for physical disability after reaching camp), Malcolm S. Grinnell, Altie Cartwright, James George Blackburn, Michael B. Leahey, Robert Lee Ferguson, Charles Chance, James R. Cyphers, Harry S. Swigart, Lewis E. Durnbaugh, Clarence Sparrow, George W. Steward, Andrew R. Deger, Clarence O. Barnett, Ervin E. Thompson, Herman Walter Semler, Lester Guy McCoy, Patrick Finn, John Lewis Hawes, Shirley

Potts, Silas Chester Printz, Alva Toner, Edgar Howard Reeves, Herbert Hite, Emmett Potts, Harry Andrew Lewis, Harry Pritchard, Artwood B. Custis, John L. Jenkins, John Wilber Corry, Roscoe Lee McCoy, Warren S. Keiter, Earl Bisher, Harry Lee Hillard, Lawrence V. Kearney, Clifton Baxter Fair, Elvis Glen Johnson, George L. Lewis, Robert I. Douglass, Emory Brown Kyle, Thomas L. Jones, Russell S. Haines, Jesse W. Carey, William E. Kennon.

The third call was made on October 3, 1917, and on that day the local draft board sent forty-seven additional men of the county's quota to Chillicothe. Their names follow: Raymond Alexander T. Day, Oscar Lawrence Clemmer, Charles Clay Grove, John Lawrence Manor, Lucion Earl Richards, Joseph Jasper Greer, Floyd Ary, Beverly Mite Wiget, Orie F. Clemmer, John Berryhill, William Emmet Burba, Ernest Homer Huston, George Joseph Koch, George Moudy Barnett, Harry T. McCormick, John McHatton Anderson, Charles Newton Jenkins, Charles Kenneth Devoe, Harley Mann Holton, John O'Conner, Jr., Ed Rice, Edward O. Feirstine, Grover Edingfield, Ralph C. Ault, Carl Emsly Smith, James Natale Ferro, William Dwight Engle, John Henry Meyers, Ralph Leroy Mitman, Joe Raymond Harner, Frank Elmer Gorham, George C. Fackler, George Dewine, Arthur Sears, Lloyd H. Douglas, Lewis Drake, Harold D. Humphrey, Vergo Mitchner, Claude Cecil Glass, George McClellan, William Perry Harner, Alonzo Jeffry, Oscar Ralph McKee, Harold H. Weeks, Julius Shakfsky, Charles F. Riley, Herman John Quirk.

The first contingent of colored men was called for on October 28, 1917, and on the following day sixty-one were sent by the local board to Chillicothe. Their names follow: Joseph Washington, James M. Wallace, Alonzo Ware, Forest Cook, John W. Woodards, Newton Dolphin, John T. Flack, Enoch L. Mitchell, George Brown, William M. Fowler, Wilfred O'Neal Williams, Charles F. Points, George Walter Nooks, John Buckner, William L. Campbell, Asa Bushnell Jones, James Thomas Howard, William Roan, William Fisher, Oscar Wendell Price, David G. Rountree, Elmer Jones, Joseph L. Booth, James Wilson, Laurence Logan, John C. Roan, Walter J. Mason, George D. Phillips, Wade Allen, Ralph Grevous, Henry Lee Walker, Lester Lewis, Cassella W. T. Ayres, Ollie Lucas, Eugene Scott, Homer T. Taylor, John H. Newsome, Ollie Wallace, John Batt, Joseph Oscar Moore, Leroy McFarland, Charles Williamson, Eugene Haines, Luther Kidd, Clifford H. Johnson, Lloyd Carter, John Thomas, Ralph Scull, Henry Clay Scott, Stanley Rose, Carl Scott, Wilber Taylor, William Lloyd Garrison, Joseph Duplessis, Henry Haygood, Gartrell Jerome Gaines, Welton Blanton Doby, William Henry Richardson, Richard A. Sterling, Lear-don Monroe Young, Calvin Thompson.

Since the draft call of October 29, 1917, there have been two calls for a considerable number of men, and there have been repeated calls for from two to a dozen for specially trained men. On February 25, 1918, two men were sent, Robert Fred Bird and William Charles Zink. Two days later fourteen men were asked to be sent to Vancouver to join a company of spruce cutters, and the following were sent at once: Elmer Edwards, Loring W. Shephard, Ora Free, Clarence Pope, Harry W. Lampert, Frederick D. Haller, Gardner W. Gearhart, Fred G. Randall, Jacob O. Parks, Thomas J. Corrigan, Charles C. Young, John Mangan, William H. Owens and Wilbur Hardy. Of this group one has already been lost by death, Ora Free dying about a month after he was sent.

Between February 27 and March 30 there were no fewer than eleven different calls for small numbers of men, the dates and names of men who were sent being as follow: February 28—Jacob Colp; March 2—Julian B. Boyd (colored); March 5—Sidney Gabel, Floyd Mathews, Fay Earley, Lawrence E. Michner and Robert Corron; March 6—Jesse L. Sheets and Howard Littler; March 7—Vasso W. Parsons (colored) William H. Wakley and Emmons B. Crawford; March 8—Stephen Gabriel Phillips; March 12—Harry C. Derrick; March 13—Rall Leroy Kauffman and William Joseph Schneider; March 18—Alpheus H. Ring, and Jesse W. Sanders; March 20—Ernest Everets Fries, Joseph James Ray, Howard C. Trumbull and William Vernon Dunning; March 23—Horace C. Treharne. Four other selectives of this period were Moselle Thompson, Joseph Finlaw, Ora Littler and Fred M. Townsley.

On March 30 a contingent of thirty men was sent to Chillicothe: Joseph A. Bratton, Rea Cecil Burns, Marrick F. Dakin, Charles Frank Davis, John Robert Dodds, Harry William Eibeck, Leo H. Evers, Paul E. Ferguson, Joseph Robert Gillen, Otto Hockett, Robert Hosier, William Edward Humes, Fred W. Kershner, John Wesley Koogler, Scott Moore, Henry W. Palmer, Earl C. Scammahorn, Harold S. Smith, William Jacob Smith, Earl R. Spahr, John Erskine Townsley, Lochie Turner, Anastasis Tymbanas, Frank Veri, Alfred L. Walls, Albert William Watts, Ralph Weaver, Herbert L. Williams, Dewey Wisecup and Gilbert Henry Young.

On April 2 seven colored selectives from the student body at Wilberforce were individually inducted into the service as stenographers, being sent to Camp Jackson, South Carolina: Ray L. Williams, George M. Winbun, Matthew F. Griggs, Martin Luther Fail, Henry C. Arnold, Elverson Smith and Howard S. McNorton. Williams and Griggs are the only two of this list credited to Greene county, both men coming from Wilberforce.

This carries the selective drafted men who have gone through the local draft board from September 6, 1917, up to and including April 2, 1918, at

which time this chapter was closed by the historian. Every effort has been made to make this list accurate, but there may be some errors. It is true that a number of men have been sent to camp who have later been rejected for physical disabilities, but in all cases these men have been included in the preceding lists.

#### ENLISTED MEN OF THE COUNTY.

While it is possible to list all the selectives of the county, it is exceedingly difficult to compile a list of those who have volunteered in some branch of the service. The local draft board keeps the record only of those who pass through its hands, in many cases not finding out that a man is in the service in some capacity until after his name is called for the draft. In compiling a list of the enlisted men, the historian was compelled to ask through the columns of the *Evening Gazette* and *Morning Republican* for the names of the men who had gone from the various townships of the county. The newspapers printed the lists as they were compiled and in this way it seems that most of the enlisted men of the county would have been reported. There were some of the townships that never reported any men, either selective or enlisted men, although it is certain that they had representatives in one or the other group.

All of the Greene county boys in Company I, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, National Guard, are enlisted men and their names have already been given. In the following paragraphs are listed all the men of the several townships who are now in the service, no distinction being made between the selectives and volunteers. It is certain that the lists are not complete, but they are as complete as they could be made. The newspapers of Xenia and other towns in the county gladly co-operated in an effort to secure a complete list of the men in the service, but despite all these efforts undoubtedly some will be found to have been omitted.

*Xenia Township* (WHITE)—Robert N. Adair, Joseph Adams, Fred Anderson, Floyd Ary, Frank Bailey, J. Louis Baldner, John W. Baldner, Clarence O. Barnett, Moudy F. Barrett, John Barwise, Cecil M. Baxter, Earl Bennington, Joseph G. Beyke, Earl Bisher, James G. Blackburn, Fred Blair, Allen J. Carpe, Ralph S. Carpenter, Charles Chance, Orie F. Clemmer, Oscar L. Clemmer, Ernest E. Clevenger, Ralph Cline, Eugene Collins, Robert Collins, Jacob Colp, Alfred Conwell, Thomas J. Corrigan, William C. Craig, James J. Curlett, Ortwood B. Custis, John L. Cyphers, Merrick F. Dakin, Charles L. Darlington, William V. Denning, Harold Dice, George Dignam, John Robert Dodds, Frank B. Dubois, Forest Dunkle, Harry William Eibeck, Leo H. Evers, Paul B. Evers, George C. Fackler, Joseph Farrell, Joseph Fealey, James N. Ferro, William Finlay, Jr., Edward Fox, Ora Free (Died in March, 1918), Ernest E. Fries, Sidney Gabel, Charles E. Galloway, William L. Galloway, Wilson W. Galloway, Harry Gardner, Guy R. Garman, Gardner W. Gearhart, Alfred F. Geyer, Curtis B. Geyer, George A. Geiger, Joseph Robert Gillen, Thomas Gilroy, William H. Gowdy, Thomas L. Graham, Lester Grice, Frederick D. Haller, William Hallisy, Adam Hartman, Albert Hauck, Arthur L. Heaton, Harry L. Hilliard, Otto Hockett, Arthur Hover, Robert Hosier, William Hupman, William M. Hurless, Forest G. Hurley, Roy B.

Ireland, George F. Isbell, Clinton Ivans, Walter Jack, Russell John, Leroy Johns, Leland Johnson, William Jordan, Joseph F. Kearney, Lawrence V. Kearney, John P. Kieley, John Kiernan, Leo Killeen, Arthur Kramer, Clyde J. Kussmaul, Wilbur A. Lebron, Harry W. Lampert, Ray Leach, Francis Leahey, Michael B. Leahey, William Leahey, Harry A. Lewis, Albert R. Littler, Howard Littler, Oliver W. Littler, Ray W. Littler, Charles Lowery, Walter F. Lunn, Edward McCalmont, Benjamin F. McClellan, Claude C. McClellan, Harry T. McCormick, George McCoy, Lester Guy McCoy, Warren McKinney, George S. Macaulay, Samuel R. Maddux, Ernest Mangan, John Mangan, Alfred Marshall, William Martin, Harold C. Messenger, Albert J. Milburn, Everett Miller, Fred Mitchell, Keith R. Moon, Thomas Neville, James Nick, John O'Connor, Jr., William Orbison, William H. Owens, Henry W. Palmer, Jacob O. Parks, Stephen G. Phillips, Charles A. Pond, John Poland, Lawrence Poland, Clarence Pope, Harry Pritchard, Herman J. Quirk, Fred G. Randall, Joseph J. Ray, Fred Rearick, Edgar H. Reeves, Eber J. Reynolds, William Rickles, Charles F. Riley, Winfield S. Ritenour, Jesse Saunders, William J. Schneider, J. William Shadrach, Julius Shakfky, Samuel W. Shaner, Jesse L. Sheets, Loring V. Shephard, Raymond Lee Shumaker, Lawrence Shields, William F. Shoemaker, Homer Earl Short, Charles Earl Smith, Harold S. Smith, Harry Smith, Ray M. Smith, William Jacob Smith, Homer C. Spahr, Earl R. Spahr, Warren A. Stephens, Bernard Stire, Hivling Stokes, Lawrence Swabb, Harry S. Swigart, Ohmer Tate, Edward A. Thomas, Clyde Thompson, James Thornton, Alva Toner, Homer Toner, Alfred F. Turrell, Charles Vance, Harry VanCleaf, Frank Veri, Edward A. Voorhees, Ralph Weaver, Chauncey W. Webster, Morey Whalen, Dewey Wisecup, Owen White, Jay H. Whitt, Charles C. Young.—Total, 187.

*Xenia Township* (COLORED)—Wade Allen, Cassella Ayres, Lee Baugos (Dead), Joseph L. Booth, John Bartz, John Buckner, Arthur A. Brown, William L. Campbell, Earl W. Carroll, Lloyd Carter, Forest Cook, Welton B. Doby, Newton Dolphin, Joseph Duplessis, John T. Flack, William Fisher Gartrell, J. Gaines, William Gales, William M. Fowler, Ralph Grevous, Eugene Haines, James T. Howard, Luther Kidd, Lester Lewis, Laurence Logan, Ollie Lucas, Leroy McFarland, Walter J. Mason, Enoch L. Mitchell, Joseph C. Moore, John H. Newsome, George W. Nooks, George D. Phillips, Charles F. Points, Oscar W. Price, John C. Roan, William Roan, Stanley Ross, David G. Rountree, Carl Scott, Eugene Scott, Ralph Scull, Henry C. Scott, Homer T. Taylor, John Thomas, Henry L. Walker, James M. Wallace, Alonzo Ware, Joseph Washington, Charles Williamson, James Wilson, John W. Woodards, Leardon M. Young.—Total, 53.

*Cedarville Township*—Delbert Allen, John MacHatton Anderson, Robert Andrews, Oscar Bailey, Robert Fred Bird, David Bradfute, Joseph A. Bratton, Sylvester Broadice, John Buckner, Austin M. Bull, Elmer C. Burba, Rea Cecil Burns, John W. Collins, A. Burdsall Creswell, Paul H. Creswell, Clarence Deck, Lawrence Dennehey, Roy Dodds, Sherman Dudley, William Fisher, Millard Frame, Ralph Gordon, Alonzo Jeffries, Orval Jeffries, Delmer C. Jobe, Asa Jones, James Justice, Nigh Justice, William E. Kennon, Ray Littler, Charles Lowry, Fred F. Marshall, Scott Moore, Elmer E. Pemberton, John Herman Randall, Bush Robinson, Isaac Robinson, Cameron Ross, Homer Shephard, Frank Schoades, Walter Smith, Clarence Sparrow, Earl Stine, Herman Stormont, Cecil Strowbridge, Arthur Taylor, Lee Taylor, Fred Townsley, John Erskine Townsley, John N. Townsley, Hugh Turnbull, Paul B. Turnbull, Alfred L. Walls, Isaac Webster, John C. Wright.—Total, 53.

*Silvercreek Township*—Ivan Adams, Charles Blakely, G. Russel Bradds, Russell Carter, Theodore Connor, Dallas Cooper, Forest Cooper, Kenneth Devoe, Alfred Doster, Robert Douglas, John Gardner, Russell Garringer, Claud C. Glass, Ralph Glass, John G. Hays, Joseph W. Hayslip, Jacob Hickman, Charles S. Hough, Sherman Hough, Frank Johnson, Clay Mauck, Russell Mauck, Frank McLaughlin, Bruce Parker, Carl A. Paullin, John W. Paullin, Lawrence Paullin, Emmett Potts, Shirley Potts, Stanley Rose, Arthur Sears, Morris Sharp, Ohmer Shaw, John Howard Snapp, Ross Stoner, Homer Taylor, Wilbur Thomas, Eugene Thorpe, DeWitt Tobin, Clarence Walker, Cecil Washington, Floyd Wilkins.—Total, 42.

*Miami Township*—Joseph Corwin Adams, Cassius Bell, Jesse W. Cary, John W. Corry,

Raymond A. T. Day, George Dewine, Alton Dunevant, Ernest Dunevant, Edward O. Feirstine, Robert L. Ferguson, Charles Sumner Fess, Thomas Lowell Fess, Patrick Finn, Jay P. Garlough, John Lawrence Garlough, William Torrence Garlough, Malcolm Grinnell, John Hackett, Howard Hamilton, Herman Hanler, Herbert Hite, Ernest H. Huston, Clifford H. Johnson, Fred W. Kershner, A. G. MacLennan, Lewis Reinwald, Smith Simpson, Gerald Tate, Edward Van Kirk, Isaiah Williams, Howard Young.—Total, 31. Alice Carr, of Yellow Springs, a graduate of John Hopkins University, is a nurse in France.

*Bath Township*—Herschell Christ, David Clingman, Ralph Dickman, George Dignam, Andrew Deger, Ralph Fierstine, Julius B. Finnell, Ralph Geis, Joseph Harner, Lloyd Howet, William Edward Hume, Herman L. Hunter, Clay E. Hunter, Rall L. Kauffman, John Wesley Koogler, Emory Kyle, John Lipp, Ralph Mitman, Roy Nelson, Fay W. Parsons, Paul Rice, William L. Rockfield, Albert Semler (Died in service, March 15, 1918), Herman W. Semler, Ernest Shearer, Edwin Toms, Albert Watts, Gilbert Young, Waldo Zeller.—Total, 29.

*Jefferson Township*—Earl Bennington, Noble Caraway, Charles Casey, Denzil Earley, Fay Earley, Guy Burdette Early (has been in France, but discharged on account of physical disability), Wilton Earley, Orson B. Foster, Albert Gerard, Elmer Gorham, Walter Gray, Russell Haines, Weldon Hatfield, Frank Hopkins, Ralph Jenks, Frank Linton, Ray Lucas, Alva Sheley, Rudolph S. Wolf.—Total, 19.

*Spring Valley Township*—William Cline, William Engle, Leroy Haines, Hugh Harper, Lewis Hawes, Lester Hurley, Ralph McKee, Lawrence Michener, Vergo Michener, Leon Murphy, Frank Reeves, Earl C. Scammahorn, Harold Scammahorn, Carl E. Smith, William Wakeley, Dr. H. O. Whitaker.—Total, 16.

*Beavercreek Township*—Chester Cyphers, Ray Day, Alonzo Durnbaugh, Herman Elliott, Jasper Greer, Howard Hare, Oscar Hare, George Haverstick, James Licklitter, Peter Snyder, Thomas Tobias, Horace Treharne, Merle Younce.—Total, 13.

*Sugarcreek Township*—William D. Engle, ——— Morris, George F. Stutsman, Raymond Stutsman.—Total, 4.

*Caesarscreek Township*—Paul Hull, Warren S. Keiter.—Total, 2.

*Other Townships*—The ten townships above given show a total of 449 men in the service, this including, as before stated, both selectives and volunteers. The historian was unable to get any list of men from Ross and New Jasper townships, but each township has undoubtedly furnished a few men. The only name sent in from one of these two townships was that of Ruby R. Carter, of New Jasper township. Summing up the men in the service from the entire county, it seems safe to say that about five hundred were in some branch of the service on April 1, 1918.

#### COUNTY DRAFT BOARD.

The Conscription Act provided for a draft board in each county in the United States, and a board of three members for each county was appointed in June, 1917. The Greene county board is composed of the following members: R. D. Williamson, chairman; George Galloway, secretary; Dr. W. A. Galloway, medical examiner. The actual work connected with the induction of the men in the service has devolved on George Galloway, who gives his entire time and attention to the work.



## FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF GREENE COUNTY TO THE WORLD WAR.

It has been stated that Greene county up to April 1, 1918, had furnished approximately five hundred men for service in the great World War, but those who are remaining at home are also doing their share to make the world safe for democracy. Three successive Liberty Loans have been ordered by the government and Greene county has exceeded its quota on each occasion. The first loan was subscribed to the amount of \$300,000; the second loan found \$680,000 in Greene county ready to help the country; the third and last loan reached approximately \$500,000 in the county. This indicates that the county has bought considerably more than a million and a half dollars worth of Liberty Bonds. In addition to this large amount the county raised more than \$30,000 for the Red Cross, and contributed more than its quotas to the Young Men's Christian Association drive and the War Chest fund. The Knights of Columbus have also raised considerable money in the county for war purposes. Furthermore the county has been apportioned \$580,000 to be raised during 1918 by the sale of War Saving Stamps and Thrift Certificates, which means that the county will have to sell a little more than \$10,000 worth each month in the year. There is no doubt that the close of the year will see the full amount sold.

Finally, it must be said that Greene county is ready and willing to do its part in every way to bring this World War to a successful conclusion. It is giving freely of its sons and of its money to the end that the government will have any army of sufficient size to force the war to a victorious end for the Allies and at the same time have the money to finance the undertaking.

## CHAPTER XXXVII.

### BANKS AND BANKING.

There was little need of banks in the first half century of the existence of Greene county. The people had very little specie and such banks as did exist prior to 1850 were largely banks of issue, few of them receiving money for deposit. They bought and sold the notes of other banks and their profits were in a great measure due to the shrewdness of their managers in guessing what notes would be worth buying and how long they could be held before selling them with any reasonable assurance of making a profit. In the days of "wild cat" banking, the banker and merchant had to consult a price sheet which showed the fluctuating value of paper money from week to week, or from day to day. A note worth ten dollars one week might be worth only half as much the following week, or, on the other hand it might be worth fifteen dollars. Such a thing as a stable currency was unknown; in those days the federal government had practically no control over the banks of the country. Any man with enough credit with a printer to get some notes struck off could set up a bank. He did not need any money, and thousands of banks were started with no other capital than was invested in the printing of the paper they issued. It was not until the days of the Civil War that banking in the United States was placed on anything like a firm basis.

If the people of Greene county did not have an abundance of "hard" money, they had a kind of currency which took its place. The paper money of the banks was called "wild cat" currency, while the term "shin-plaster" was also in current use and described the same kind of fluctuating currency. Merchants frequently issued paper money with their own name on it, in denominations as low as five cents, and it circulated at its face value in the immediate community—that is, as long as the merchant's credit was good. The farther the merchant's "shin-plaster" wandered from his place of business, the less valuable it became. A "shin-plaster" of a Xenia merchant in Columbus would probably not be accepted at all. Merchants also issued a species of "hard" money, minted from some cheap metal, which was called "token" money, the pieces being known as "tokens." The redeemable value of the "token" was stamped on it, but it, like the "shin-plaster," was dependent on the credit of the merchant issuing it. The merchant redeemed his "tokens" at their face value, and in many cases his "money" became in a sense part of the circulating medium of his community. Even to this day, this kind of "money" is issued by some merchants.

Another method of providing a circulating medium of exchange was

the issuance of what were known as "due bills," which, in effect, were the same as "tokens" and "shin-plasters." It must not be understood that there was no specie of the government in circulation, but it was very limited and so limited, in fact, that the custom arose of actually cutting up the coins to represent smaller fractional values. Silver dollars were cut into nine pieces, sort of triangular shaped, with the sharp point tapering toward the center of the coin. The pieces thus cut off were called "sharp-shins." It was also customary to cut the twenty-five cent piece into two pieces, the resultant pieces being known throughout the western states as "bits," a word which is still in current use. Frequently, even the "bit" was halved, and the early treasurers of Greene county took over many a six-and-a-quarter-cent piece as part payment in taxes. The local records of the commissioners bear constant witness to the fact that the pioneers of the county cut their money into pieces. Scarcely a tax-payer in the county but found his annual bill to the county treasurer with a fractional cent thereon.

#### BANK OF XENIA.

The first bank of the county concerning which definite information has been preserved was known as the Bank of Xenia. It opened for business on June 1, 1835, with the following officers: President, John H. Hivling; vice-president, John Ewing; cashier, Henry Clark. Later E. F. Drake became cashier. The bank was started as a private enterprise and so continued until 1846, when it was reorganized, under a newly enacted act of the General Assembly, with the new name of Xenia Branch of the State Bank of Ohio. Abraham Hivling became the first president of the bank upon its reorganization, while E. F. Drake was continued as cashier.

Drake resigned in 1848 and his place was filled by J. W. Merrick, who had been connected with the bank as teller. Upon the death of Merrick, John B. Allen became cashier. The bank continued a successful career until it was reorganized under the national banking act of 1862 and became the First National Bank. Upon the expiration of its charter at the end of twenty years, it was reorganized as the Xenia National Bank, the name by which it is still known.

#### SECOND NATIONAL BANK, XENIA.

The Second National Bank, of Xenia, was organized on March 7, 1864, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The first officers were as follow: James Allison, president; David Millen, vice-president; John S. Ankeney, cashier. Allison died in August, 1864, and Thomas P. Townsley was elected president, a position he continued to hold until 1884. Ankeney was cashier of the bank during its existence. Robert Lytle entered the bank as book-

keeper upon its organization, and was promoted from time to time until he became teller. When it was found that the bank was in serious financial difficulties in 1884, Lytle, although he protested that he felt unable to straighten out the affairs of the bank, was elected cashier. He struggled for four years to put the bank on a firm basis, but he was unsuccessful, and in 1888 it closed its doors.

#### CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK, XENIA.

The Citizens National Bank, of Xenia, was organized in 1881 with a capital stock of \$100,000. The first directors of the bank were J. W. King (president), John Little, E. H. Munger, Dr. Leigh McClung, J. D. Edwards, H. H. Eavey, and J. H. Harbine. The bank opened for business in November, 1881, in a rented building on Greene street, but has since purchased the building at the corner of East Main and Greene streets, where it is now located. The present officers are as follow: H. H. Eavey, president; R. S. Kingsbury, vice-president; M. L. Wolf, cashier; T. D. Kyle, assistant cashier. The directors are H. H. Eavey, R. S. Kingsbury, H. L. Smith, Henry Getz, George Galloway, S. B. LeSourd and R. D. Adair.

The bank has been unusually prosperous, a fact which is evidenced by the fact that its resources are near the million-dollar mark. The bank now has a surplus and undivided profit of \$125,000, with deposits of \$750,000.

#### THE COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANK COMPANY, XENIA.

The Commercial and Savings Bank Company, of Xenia, was organized on June 18, 1906, by H. H. Conklin, Ed. S. Foust, C. L. Babb, W. L. Miller, A. E. Faulkner, R. R. Grieve and C. M. Austin. Its first officers are still serving in the same capacity, there not having been a change in the twelve years of the bank's history. They are as follows: President, H. H. Conklin; vice-president, Ed. S. Foust; cashier, C. L. Babb. The directors include these three officials and W. I. Miller, A. E. Faulkner, R. R. Grieve and C. M. Austin. The bank is located in the Allen building at the southwest corner of Detroit and Main street. The bank statement of March 4, 1918, shows that it is in a flourishing condition:

RESOURCES.			
Loans on Real Estate.....	\$101,594.03	Premiums on Bonds and Securities .....	1,291.80
Loans on Collateral.....	31,530.00	Furniture and Fixtures.....	7,000.00
Other Loans and Discounts.....	146,160.54	Due from Reserve	
Overdrafts .....	289.00	Banks .....	\$148,715.44
U. S. Bonds and Securities not included in Reserve (Items 5, 6, 7, 8) .....	6,000.00	Exchanges for Clearing	
State, County and Municipal Bonds not included in Reserve.....	102,751.27	House .....	3,862.71
		Cash in vault (Items 18, 19, 20, 21) .....	26,196.31
		Bonds held as lawful reserve.....	178,774.46
		Total .....	\$575,391.10

LIABILITIES.		Demand Certificates of	
Capital Stock Paid in.....	\$ 50,000.00	Deposit .....	39,709.92
Surplus Fund .....	4,000.00	Certified Checks.....	19,363.93
Undivided Profits less Expenses,		Time Certificates of De-	
Interest and Taxes Paid.....	4,736.35	posit .....	101,731.57
Individual Deposits		Savings Deposits .....	21,401.06
subject to check		Total Deposits .....	516,654.75
(Items 34, 35).....	\$334,448.27	Total .....	\$575,391.10

## FARMERS AND TRADERS BANK, JAMESTOWN.

The Farmers and Traders Bank of Jamestown is one of the oldest financial institutions in the county. Established in August, 1867, with a capital stock of \$50,000, it opened its doors for business on the 1st of the following October. The first officers were as follow: L. L. Syphers, president; John Davis, vice-president; Morris Sharp, cashier. Several changes have taken place in the board of directors during the past half century, but one director and official, John C. Brown, who entered the bank in 1870, is still with it. He was elected cashier in 1870, served in this capacity for many years, and was eventually elected president, a position which he still holds. Few men in the state have been actively connected with a banking institution longer than Mr. Brown. A. G. Carpenter is now vice-president, and R. J. Moorman is cashier. The bank started business in a rented building on East Washington street, but as the years went by and its business increased, it felt the need of a new building. Accordingly, it erected the substantial building which now stands at the corner of Washington and Limestone streets, and here it maintains its quarters at the present time.

## EXCHANGE BANK, CEDARVILLE.

The Exchange Bank of Cedarville has had a continuous history of twenty-six years in the town. In 1890 the W. J. Wildman Company started a private bank in Selma, and two years later moved the bank to Cedarville. When the bank was established in Cedarville in 1892 it was reorganized, Seth W. Smith, of Cedarville, becoming a stockholder with W. J. and L. H. Wildman. L. H. Wildman was the cashier and served as such until his death in 1899, when W. J. Wildman became cashier, with Oscar L. Smith, the son of Seth W. Smith, assistant cashier. At the time the Exchange Bank began operations, there was another private bank in the town owned by the George W. Harper Banking Company. This bank had had some difficulties at one time or another, and in 1896 the Exchange Bank bought out the Harper bank and since that year has been the only bank in the town.

The bank started in 1892 with a capital of \$10,000, which was increased to \$15,000 in 1899. The bank was at first located in the township building,

in the room now occupied by Andrew Jackson, the township clerk. It remained there until 1905, when it located in its present quarters. This same year, 1905, saw a radical change in the history of the bank, the Wildman interest being acquired at this time by Seth W. Smith and his son, Oscar L., the latter becoming the cashier. Two years later, 1907, it was decided to increase the capital stock of the bank to \$30,000. At this time George W. Rife and Oliver Garlough became interested in the bank, and L. F. Tindall came into the bank as assistant cashier. The bank continued to prosper and increased deposits from year to year, until in 1914 it was decided to increase the capital stock to \$40,000 and apply for a charter as a state bank. The charter was received on July 17, 1914, and within a short time all the additional capital stock was sold. In 1917 the capital stock was increased to \$50,000, all of which has been paid in, the bank now numbering about forty stockholders.

W. J. Wildman was president of the bank from 1892 to 1905. Seth W. Smith served from 1905 to 1917, when he retired and since that time George W. Rife has been acting as president. Within the past year the bank has purchased the block at the northwest corner of Main and Xenia streets for a new location. It has sold its present quarters which it has owned for a number of years, and is preparing to raze the old buildings on its recently acquired lot and erect a large business block. The bank prides itself on the fact that it has sold more than its quota on each of the Liberty Loans in 1917 and 1918. The Third Liberty Loan apportioned more to the Cedarville institution than to any other bank in the county outside of Xenia. The bank can now call itself a half-million-dollar institution, its deposits on March 4, 1918, totaling \$551,594.20. Following is the bank's statement for March 4, 1918:

RESOURCES		U. S. Revenue Stamps.....	
Loans on Real Estate.....	\$ 25,000.00		143.00
Loans on Collateral.....	70,320.00	Total .....	\$615,606.48
Other Loans and Discounts.....	201,860.81	LIABILITIES.	
Overdrafts .....	3,133.82	Capital Stock Paid in.....	\$ 50,000.00
U. S. Liberty Bonds not included in Reserve (Items 5-6-7-8)....	30,000.00	Surplus Fund .....	12,000.00
State, County and Municipal Bonds not included in Reserve...	21,569.72	Undivided Profits less Expenses, Interest and Taxes Paid.....	2,012.28
Other Bonds and Securities.....	44,244.40	Individual Deposits subject to check Items 34-35.....	379,367.91
Furniture and Fixtures.....	1,750.00	Demand Certificates of Deposits..	26,468.70
Other Real Estate.....	9,200.00	Special Deposits .....	38,628.55
Due from Reserve Banks.....	187,221.85	Savings Deposits .....	107,129.04
Exchanges for Clearing.....	588.25	Total .....	\$615,606.48
Cash in Vault Items 18-19-20-21..	11,544.63		

## THE MIAMI DEPOSIT BANK, YELLOW SPRINGS.

The first bank in Yellow Springs was the Citizens Bank, which was established on November 1, 1888, and had a continuous career until it went into the hands of a receiver on July 13, 1905. S. S. Puckett was the cashier of this bank during its entire existence of seventeen years. It had its lean and its fat years, but its final year was so fraught with financial troubles that it was forced to suspend operations. It is not necessary in this connection to follow its career through the seventeen years of its active operation, and it is noticed only for the reason that it became, in a sense, the forerunner of the present Miami Deposit Bank, an institution which has been as successful as its predecessor was unsuccessful.

When the Citizens Bank was compelled to close its doors, it had deposits to the amount of \$30,000 on its books. The question was whether it should be sold or liquidated, and it was at this juncture that two interested citizens of the community decided to buy the defunct bank. These men were P. M. Stewart and Robert Elder. On July 13, 1905, they purchased from the receivers the former bank, the banking house and all its accounts, and at once opened a new institution under the name of The Miami Deposit Bank. It was operated as a private bank, with a capital stock of \$10,000, until May 17, 1909, when a reorganization was effected by incorporating it as a state bank under the Ohio bank laws, with a capital stock of \$25,000 and surplus of \$1,000. The confidence of the people in a bank in Yellow Springs, which was badly shaken by the failure of the Citizens Bank, had by this time been largely restored, evidenced by the fact that the deposit account was slightly above \$100,000 at the time of reorganization. The first officers elected at the reorganization of The Miami Deposit Bank were as follows: P. M. Stewart, president; Robert Elder, vice-president; W. J. Adamson, cashier; directors, E. S. Kelly, F. M. Corry, Charles S. Hatfield, W. J. Adamson and P. M. Stewart. These officials have continued to serve in their respective capacities up to the present, with the exception of Mr. Kelly and Mr. Adamson, both of whom have resigned. Mr. Stewart is now serving both as president and cashier. Robert Elder and John W. Larkins were elected to fill the places made vacant on the board of directors.

The bank is located on the east side of Xenia avenue in the two-story brick building which was purchased in 1909, the second floor being occupied by the Bell telephone station and a dentist's office. During the summer of 1916 a brick addition of one room with basement and heating plant, and a white enameled brick front was built, together with a complete remodeling of the banking rooms. Since 1910 the bank has increased its deposits nearly

four times, while the surplus and profits, which indicate the real worth of a bank, show a seven-fold increase.

## RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts.....	\$156,263.70
Overdrafts .....	80.11
Bonds and Stocks.....	86,403.29
Premium on Bonds .....	46.00
Banking House .....	7,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures.....	2,500.00
Collections in Transit.....	2,300.00
Cash and Exchange.....	186,343.68

Total .....441,436.78

## LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock .....	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus .....	20,000.00
Undivided Profits .....	2,903.59
Deposits .....	393,533.19

Total .....441,436.78

## THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, OSBORN.

The First National Bank at Osborn was organized February 25, 1910, with a capital stock of \$25,000, and the following officers: M. L. Finnell, president; Charles H. Simms, vice-president; O. B. Kauffman, cashier. No change has been made in these officers since the establishment of the bank. H. M. Neff has been added as assistant cashier. The first directors included M. L. Finnell, Charles H. Simms, H. E. Froher, L. F. Creamer, C. C. Sloan, A. H. Smith, J. J. Whaley and J. M. Wilson. The bank opened its doors on April 1, 1910, in a rented building, the same in which it is still located. The bank's report on March 4, 1918, follows:

## RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts.....	\$164,515.16
Overdrafts, unsecured .....	176.65
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation (par value) .....	25,000.00
U. S. Bonds and certificates of in- debtedness owned and un- pledged .....	3,000.00
Liberty Loan Bonds, unpledged..	7,413.62
Bonds and Securities pledged as collateral for State, or other deposits, etc. ....	\$ 10,000.00
Securities other than U. S. Bonds, etc.....	126,272.50
Total Bonds, Securities, etc.....	136,272.50
Stock of Federal Reserve Bank (50 per cent subscription).....	900.00
Furniture and Fixtures.....	3,000.00
Lawful Reserve with Federal Re- serve Bank .....	30,488.88
Cash in vault and net amounts due from national banks.....	141,857.09
Net amount due from banks and bankers .....	3,014.68

Checks on banks located outside of city, etc.....	33.80
Redemption Fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer .....	1,250.00
Total .....	\$516,922.38

## LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock Paid in.....	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus Fund .....	5,000.00
Undivided Profits .....	6,055.45
Circulating Notes outstanding....	25,000.00
Individual Deposits subject to check .....	354,515.47
Certificates of Deposit due in less than 30 days.....	80,324.58
Cashier's checks outstanding....	6,252.75
State, County or other Municipal deposits secured by pledge of as- sets of this bank.....	14,768.13
Dividends unpaid .....	6.00
Total .....	\$516,922.38



THE SPRING VALLEY NATIONAL BANK.

The Spring Valley National Bank was organized on September 12, 1905, with a capital stock of \$25,000. The first officers of the institution were Fremont Miars, president; J. L. Harper, vice-president; W. W. Whiteker, cashier. These officers together with Homer Walton, C. H. Harris, W. G. Thompson and Moses Walton constituted the first board of directors. The bank opened for business on September 12, 1905, in a rented building, but it has since erected a building of its own at a cost of \$4,700, the building standing on lot No. 4, Pike street. The present officers include the following: P. A. Alexander, president; W. C. Smith, vice-president; Charles Mendenhall, second vice-president; W. W. Whiteker, cashier; W. E. Crites, assistant cashier. The officers, with the exception of the assistant cashier, are on the board of directors, the other members of the board being Arch Copey, James Crowl, S. V. Hartsock, G. M. Oglesbee and Homer Walton.

The bank statement of September 11, 1917, follows:

RESOURCES.			
Loans and Discounts.....	\$116,929.37	Cash .....	3,050.67
Overdrafts .....	412.13	Five Per Cent Redemption Fund. ....	500.00
U. S. Bonds .....	10,000.00	Total .....	\$187,962.58
Liberty Loan Bonds.....	1,200.00	LIABILITIES.	
Federal Reserve Bank Stock.....	950.00	Capital Stock .....	\$25,000.00
Bonds, Securities, etc.....	2,550.00	Surplus and Profits.....	6,993.04
Banking House, Real Estate.....	4,750.00	Circulation .....	10,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures.....	2,600.00	Dividends Unpaid .....	183.00
Due from National Banks.....	30,307.47	Deposits .....	160,000.00
Collections in Transit .....	4,900.00	Total .....	\$187,962.58
Due from Federal Reserve Bank.	9,812.94		

BOWERSVILLE BANK.

The Bowersville Bank was organized in the fall of 1895 and opened its doors on November 1st of that year with the following officers: George N. Perrill, president; W. A. Bowermeister, vice-president; C. R. Ellis, cashier. Ellis was succeeded by A. L. Fisher in about a year, and the latter has continued in this capacity since that time. The original president and vice-president have remained at the head of the institution since it was organized twenty-three years ago, a record which is probably not equaled in the county.

The bank started out with a capital stock of \$20,000, only twenty per cent. of which was paid up, but the entire capital stock was later paid into the bank. The original stockholders included George N. Perrill, William Allen and Cyrus Hite, Dr. John Hussey, O. C. Hussey, Dr. John Sayrs, S. J. Fannon, F. L. ozley, William King, D. L. Reeves, J. F. Wilson, J. F. Zimmerman, J. G. Conklin, C. R. Ellis, W. J. Oglesbee and the firm of N. J.

Bowermeister & Son. Since the organization of the bank in 1895 the following stockholders have been added: A. B. Lewis, J. C. Early, K. M. Johnston, Alonzo Johnson and A. L. Fisher. Of the original stockholders Dr. John Hussey, O. C. Hussey, S. J. Fannon, William Hite and D. L. Reeves are deceased. J. C. Early, one of the later stockholders, is also deceased.

The bank has continued as a private bank and has enjoyed a steady growth. It has added a savings department, paying three per cent. on savings deposits. The bank has built up a surplus of twenty-five thousand dollars during the twenty-three years of its existence. Being a private bank it does not make quarterly reports, but at its last yearly report at the close of 1917 it showed deposits of about \$185,000.

The present officers are: George N. Perrill, president; W. A. Bowermeister, vice-president; A. L. Fisher, cashier; H. C. Fisher, assistant cashier. The directors are George N. Perrill, A. A. Hite, F. L. Oxley, F. L. Early, K. M. Johnston and A. B. Lewis. The quarters of the bank are in a leased building on East Xenia street, the banking rooms being fitted up with all the equipment for modern banking.

PEOPLES BANK, JAMESTOWN.

The Peoples Bank, of Jamestown, was organized in 1886 with the following officers: J. G. Clemens, president; N. G. Brown, vice-president; W. L. Clemens, cashier. The present officers are W. W. Johnson, president; F. W. Ogan, vice-president; George R. Spahr, cashier.

THE HOME BUILDING AND SAVINGS COMPANY, XENIA.

The Home Building and Savings Company of Xenia was organized on December 29, 1894, with a capital stock of \$500,000, which was increased to \$1,000,000, on February 2, 1900, and was again increased to \$2,000,000 on June 15, 1915. It began business on January 12, 1895, in a building which it rented. Its first officers were: F. D. Torrence, president; J. F. Haverstick, vice-president; J. F. Orr, secretary and Marcus Shoup, attorney. Its first directors were A. S. Frazer, F. D. Torrence, O. K. Putman, J. F. Orr, F. E. McGervey, J. A. Dodds, S. S. Wilson and J. F. Haverstick. Its financial stability is evidenced by the following statement of its assets and liabilities:

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Running Stock.....	\$1,097,540.26	Real Estate .....	\$ 9,434.00
Paid-up Stock .....	22,200.00	Loans .....	1,516,552.78
Deposits .....	367,614.09	Expense .....	1,193.93
Books .....	2.50	Furniture and Fixtures.....	350.00
Undivided Profits .....	7,805.98	Insurance and Taxes Paid.....	538.73
Reserve Fund .....	40,950.00	Cash .....	8,043.39
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total .....	\$1,536,112.83	Total .....	\$1,536,112.83

The company's present officers are: H. L. Smith, president; J. W. Prugh, vice-president; S. B. LeSourd, secretary, and H. S. LeSourd, assistant secretary and attorney. Its present directors are H. L. Smith, William Sutton, J. W. Prugh, R. D. Adair, Marcus Shoup, George M. Stiles, John A. Dodds, A. S. Frazer and S. B. LeSourd.

PEOPLE'S BUILDING AND SAVINGS COMPANY, XENIA.

The People's Building and Savings Company of Xenia was organized on September 24, 1885, with an authorized capital stock of \$200,000, which was increased to an authorized capital of \$3,000,000, on March 2, 1909. It opened its doors for business on October 10, 1885, in a rented building. Its first officers were as follow: A. M. Stark, president; J. R. Blackburn, vice-president; D. B. Williams, secretary; Robert Lytle, treasurer, and H. L. Smith, attorney. Its first directors were A. M. Stark, John C. Tiffany, John Lutz, William Smart, Charles Thompson, Henry Farrell and J. R. Blackburn. Since its organization nearly thirty-three years ago the company has enjoyed a substantial and continuous growth. The present officers are: Charles F. Howard, president; M. J. Hartley, vice-president; Thomas J. Kennedy, secretary; O. M. Whittington, treasurer, and Charles W. Whitmer, attorney. The company rents the building at 18 East Market street, in which it carries on business. Its stability as a financial institution is set forth in its financial statement of June 30, 1917:

ASSETS.		Furniture and Fixtures.....	2,000.00
Cash on hand.....	\$ 56,618.29		
Loans on mortgage security.....	1,301,723.12	Total .....	\$1,522,398.05
Loans on stock and pass-book security .....	9,115.00	LIABILITIES.	
Loans on all other security.....	20,000.00	Running Stock .....	1,052,465.63
Real Estate sold on contract....	409.25	Paid-up Stock and Dividends..	282,780.20
Due from Borrowers for Insurance and taxes.....	90.19	Deposits and Accrued Interest..	130,072.09
Bonds .....	44,420.00	Reserve Fund .....	47,700.00
Deposits in other associations...	88,000.00	Undivided Profits .....	9,380.13
Other Assets .....	22.20	Total .....	\$1,522,398.05

CEDARVILLE BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.

The Cedarville Building and Loan Association was organized in January, 1895, largely through the efforts of Andrew Jackson. The institution was started with a capital stock of \$200,000 and still operates with the same capital stock. J. H. Wolford was the first president and Andrew Jackson was the first secretary-treasurer. Mr. Jackson has served continuously in the same capacity since the association was established. W. J. Tarbox is now president and A. Z. Smith vice-president. There are scores of the

citizens of Cedarville who have been able to build homes with the help of the association. At the present time there are 179 stockholders, and a total of 244 running stockholders. The office of the association is in the town hall, Mr. Jackson, the secretary, conducting the business in connection with his duties as township clerk.

## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

### TRANSPORTATION—HIGHWAYS, STEAM AND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.

The building of roads was one of the first problems that confronted the early settlers of Greene county. From the days of the now forgotten Pinkney and Bullskin roads down to the present time the road problem has been one of the most important with which the taxpayers have had to deal. With the settlement of the county there arose the need for some means of communication between the different communities, and this need was met by the local authorities as fast as possible. It was natural for the first settlers to settle along the streams and rivers or along the old Indian trails.

The construction of roads and bridges has been in the hands of the county commissioners since the beginning of the county, although during the past few years the General Assembly has provided a state highway department which is taking over some of the duties of the once omnipotent commissioners. A study of the records of the county commissioners from the time of the organization of the county in 1803 down to the present time shows that more than half their deliberations have been concerned with the building of roads and bridges. Many of the sessions of the board have been wholly taken up with the consideration of new roads, the alteration of roads already established, the building of new or the repairing of old bridges, hearing of claimants for damages on account of new roads, overflowing streams or faulty bridges.

As might be expected, the roads in the county for many years after it was organized were little more than trails through the forests, over the hills, around the swamps and across the prairies. Most of the earliest roads simply followed the old Indian trails and were usually just wide enough to allow the passage of one wagon, it being necessary in the thickly wooded parts to cut out here and there a wider place in the trail in order to allow two wagons to pass.

In the building of roads there are many different factors to be taken into consideration, and certainly Greene county has had a number to contend with since the days when it laid out the first road. The fact that the county was heavily forested for the most part made the initial cost very expensive. Again, the county is crossed by a number of rivers and streams of considerable size, and their bridging has entailed a heavy expense on the county. The presence of rivers the size of the Little Miami and Mad costs

the county thousands of dollars, not only to keep them bridged, but also to keep them free from obstructions. The early records of the commissioners bear expensive testimony to the fact that frequent appropriations were made to remove obstructions from the Little Miami river, as well as smaller streams of the county. At the present time there are 3,200 bridges and culverts in Greene county, and the county surveyor, Joseph M. Fawcett, has a system by which he has every one of them tabulated. He keeps two record books for each township, one for the bridges and one for the culverts. In case there is a complaint about any particular bridge or culvert in the county, he can turn instantly to his records and tell at a glance the location, size, date of erection, condition at last inspection, etc., of the bridge or culvert in question. He keeps the same close tab on the roads of the county, and with a system of maps, is enabled to show at a glance the character of any road in the county. He also has a card index of the bridges and culverts of the county.

Greene county has 732.85 miles of roads, divided among the various townships as follows (exclusive of the roads in the incorporated towns and cities): Bath, 81.35; Miami, 56; Cedarville, 65.5; Ross, 55; Silvercreek, 48; New Jasper, 44; Jefferson, 55; Casarscreek, 53; Spring Valley, 64; Sugar-creek, 41; Beavercreek, 80.5; Xenia, 92. The road mileage of the towns and cities is as follows: Xenia, 22; Yellow Springs, 15; Osborn, 5.8; Cedarville, 4.63; Jamestown, 3.61; Spring Valley, 2.8; Bellbrook, 2.3; Fairfield, 2.27; Clifton, 1.59; Bowersville, 1.59; Alpha, .56.

Still another factor which confronts the road builder in Greene county is the character of the county's topography, it being decidedly rolling in many places and as decidedly swampy in others. For this reason there are many of the county roads which still follow the same general direction of the old Indian trails which they superseded. The Indians made their trails on the principle of following the line of least resistance, and the first settlers in many instances followed in their footsteps—and in many cases the automobiles of 1918 are coursing down the path trod by the Indian centuries ago. The trail of the Indian was "corduroyed" by the county commissioners in the '40s and macadanized only within the past few years. Following organization these came to be what were known as "state" roads and "county" roads, the former being those which extended beyond the limits of the county and the latter those within the county. Undoubtedly the first state road in the county was the so-called Pinkney road, which, starting from Cincinnati, led northward through Hamilton and Warren counties and entered Greene county near the southwestern corner. The main street of the village of Bellbrook is coincident with this first road into the county, and from there it veered to the north and a little to the east, reaching the present village of Alpha in Beavercreek township. It will be recalled that

the first court house of the county, the rude log cabin of Peter Bowers, was located at Alpha on Beaver creek. It was this Pinkney road which first opened the way from Cincinnati northward to Greene county; over its treacherous path, filled with stumps and swamps, came the first lawyers to Xenia; along it moved the patient ox-teams of the forefathers with their meager belongings; over it came the first supplies for the pioneer merchants of Xenia.

Just north of Alpha the Pinkney road was crossed by an east and west road, running from Xenia to Dayton, which was known in the early days as the "Beer road," a designation applied because there was so much beer hauled over its devious path. Another famous road of a century ago was known as the "Bullskin road," this being the first road into Xenia from the south. It was given its name because of the fact that it started from an Indian village of this name on the Ohio river.

#### TOLL ROADS IN THE COUNTY.

It is not certain when the first toll road appeared in America, but Pennsylvania had one in 1792, and there may have been other colonies which had them even before that date. Ohio is credited with its first one in Trumbull county as early as 1809. It is not certain when the first toll road appeared in Greene county, but they were in operation in the '30s. During that decade the General Assembly provided that county commissioners might assist in the building of turnpikes by purchasing stock in private companies. At one time Greene county was a network of these toll roads, and it cost as much to travel these pay-as-you-drive roads as it does to travel on steam or electric trains today. It was not until the '80s that the General Assembly abolished the law providing for public money to be expended through these private companies. In repealing the act allowing county commissioners to appropriate money for toll roads, the Legislature made provision whereby the commissioners could purchase the roads already in the hands of private companies. But it was not until 1910 that a law was passed which made it mandatory for all counties to take over all toll roads within their limits. Furthermore, the counties were authorized to issue bonds for this purpose if they could not otherwise provide the money for their purchase and there are a number of counties in the state that are paying interest on bonds issued for the sole purpose of buying toll roads, and which in some counties extend until 1930.

#### SOMETHING ABOUT ROAD LAWS.

The building of public highways in Ohio is hedged about with a multiplicity of enactments. From the earliest days of the state down to 1915 the road laws of the state were a miscellaneous patchwork of legislative acts, the

result of more than a century of legislation. Prior to 1915 those interested in good roads had been demanding that the state revise its road laws, but it was impossible to get the legislative sanction necessary to bring this about. It is fruitless to follow the vagaries of highway legislation since the first act was passed on August 1, 1792, by the Legislature of the old Northwest Territory. Subsequent road laws were passed by the same body on October 28, 1799, December 13, 1799, and January 23, 1802. This latter act was in force when the first state constitution was adopted in 1802, and consequently was the first road law in the state of Ohio. During the period of the old constitution (1802-51) there were hundreds of road laws placed on the statute books of the state, but most of these were of local application only and not concerned with highways at large. After the adoption of the 1851 constitution there was a considerable change in the management of highways, but the law until 1912 still permitted road taxes to be worked out by those against whom they were assessed. In 1892 an effort was made to provide a highway committee, or rather a commission, which was to investigate general road conditions in the state and make such recommendations to the Legislature as they might see fit. It is interesting to note that this commission of 1892 reported that public highways were matters of purely local concern, and that their maintenance was a matter which should be left in the hands of the local authorities. It is this idea that has been responsible for the backward condition of the roads of the state. Not until 1904 did Ohio awaken to the necessity of establishing a centralized highway department.

With the legislative act of 1904 the state started on a new era of road making. Between 1851 and 1904 the state made no appropriation for roads, but on the other hand contributed freely of legislative acts to assist the local authorities. The act of 1904, supplemented by acts passed up until 1915, placed road construction in the state on a new basis altogether. The most revolutionary change was brought about by an amendment to the constitution in 1912 which abolished the principle of working out the road tax. This antiquated system is fast disappearing all over the United States, and Ohio was one of the last states to rid itself of this obnoxious system. The present system of highway construction is based on the legislative act of 1915, known as the Cass highway act, a comprehensive act covering ninety-two pages of the Laws of Ohio. It is not possible to go into detail to set forth the various provisions of this act, but its general provisions may be briefly summed up as follows: The county surveyor was designated as the county highway superintendent and was general supervisor of all the roads and bridges in the county. He was given the authority to appoint such assistants as he might require in the performance of the duties connected with his



office. The county has twelve townships and each township is divided into road districts. The law provided that each township may have from one to four districts each. Each district in the township is in charge of a township highway superintendent appointed by the township trustees, the official receiving a per diem of \$2.25. He is restricted to a definite number of days during the year, for which he may draw a salary, the number being determined by the trustees.

The law of 1915 underwent several radical changes at the hands of the 1917 General Assembly. The changes are embodied in the White-Mulcahy act (March 10, 1917). While the main features of the old act were continued, its administration as regards the counties was changed. The office of county highway superintendent was abolished and to the county surveyor, who, in most of the counties of the state, had served as highway superintendent during the past two years, was given most of the duties formerly in the hands of the highway superintendent. With the abolition of the office of highway superintendent the surveyor was placed upon a straight salary basis and the fees formerly attached to the office of highway superintendent now revert to the county. In other words the county surveyor is still highway superintendent, but is not officially recognized as such by title. He does practically the same work, exercises the same jurisdiction over roads and performs the functions as were prescribed by the act of 1915.

Ohio has a set of names for its roads which are somewhat confusing. There are township roads, county roads and state roads. State roads are of two kinds—inter-county and market. Each road is in a distinct class regarding the method of providing and paying for the same. Main market roads are the main roads leading from a large city in one county to a large city in another. Inter-county roads follow the same principle between counties. Under late enactments of the federal Congress, federal roads will be established as the main roads in the United States, such as the national pike south of us. The county and township roads are the less important roads in the county. The best roads of the county are the inter-county highways. Greene county now has eight of the inter-county highways. Their official designations are obtained by hyphenating the towns which they connect. They are as follows: Dayton-Springfield, Columbus-Cincinnati, Dayton-Chillicothe, Springfield-Xenia, Wilmington-Xenia, Springfield-Jamestown and Jamestown-Hillsboro. These roads have a total length in Greene county of 89.60 miles of the total road mileage of the county.

The act of 1915 provided that all roads shall be numbered and named and that all bridges shall be located and numbered. A traveler would, therefore, be able to follow a road by the numbers on the bridges and culverts. For instance, he comes to a bridge numbered "125/10." The first number,

"125," means that the road is No. 125, while the "10" means that the bridge is the tenth one on that road. Thus the county surveyors are enabled to keep a more accurate record of the bridges under their supervision. Surveyor Fawcett already has all of this work done in Greene county.

Greene county has two rivers within its limits which require bridges of considerable size. There are four bridges over Mad river, two of the old-fashioned wooden bridges with a shingle roof over them, and two modern steel structures. The Little Miami river is spanned by fifteen bridges, seven covered wooden bridges, seven steel bridges, and one stone-arched bridge (at Clifton). The branch of the Little Miami which runs through Yellow Springs is crossed by two bridges, one steel and one stone. The largest bridge in the county is known as the Roxanna bridge, and is near the southern line of the county. This bridge is a steel structure, 390 feet in length, and was constructed in 1908 at a cost of approximately \$15,000. There is only one unbridged road leading across the Little Miami river, that being the road running northwest from Xenia, commonly known as the Fair Ground road. It might be noted that the county did not have a single bridge swept out in the devastating flood of 1913.

#### RAILROADS.

In many ways Greene county was fortunate in not being in the path of any of the numerous canals which were built up and down and across the state of Ohio. The counties crossed by canals were not quite as anxious to have the railroad as those that did not have them, besides the canal counties came into close touch with some high finance that made them somewhat skeptical of all public improvements for many years to come. Greene county happened to lay in the path, however, of the first railroad built in the state. The day in August, 1845, when the first train pulled into Xenia was a red-letter day in the history of Greene county, for with the coming of the railroad the growth of the county was stimulated in every direction. The railroad gave the farmers an outlet for their products; it made it possible for the manufacturer to increase his output and reach hitherto inaccessible markets. The Little Miami railroad opened the way to Cincinnati to the south in 1845 and the following year the road was in operation as far north as Springfield. This eighty-four miles of railway between Cincinnati and Springfield was soon hauling all the passengers and freight that its meager rolling stock could handle.

In 1918 Greene county is well supplied with both steam and electric roads. The Little Miami railroad after many changes in name finally became a part of the great Pennsylvania system, while the same system has a road entering the county from the west and, passing through the county seat.

goes across the northeast corner of the county to Columbus. The old Dayton & Western, later the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton, and now a branch of the Baltimore & Ohio, parallels the Pennsylvania from Dayton to Xenia. Thence it runs eastward through the county to Washington Court House and points farther east in the state. These three roads are the only roads through the county seat, and the only roads traversing the entire length of the county.

There are three other steam roads which reach the county, but which do not pass through the county seat. Two of these cut across the northwestern corner of the county, being roads running between Springfield and Dayton, one the Big Four and the other the Erie. Both roads run through Osborn. The third steam road of the county cuts the southeastern corner of the county, passing through Bowersville. This is a branch of the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton railroad.

#### THE PENNSYLVANIA LINES.

The first railroad of the county, the Little Miami, now a part of the Pennsylvania system, dates its inception from an act of the General Assembly of the state, approved March 11, 1836. Its charter called for the construction and maintenance of a railroad from Cincinnati to Springfield, a distance of eighty-four miles. It was this road which reached Xenia nine years later, the road that now passes through the city along the west side of the public square. Work was not begun on the road until 1837, and it was not until December, 1842, that the road was ready for traffic between Cincinnati and Mulford, a small town a few miles northeast of Cincinnati. By August, 1845, the road was opened between Cincinnati and Xenia. Just a year later, the road was opened throughout its entire length.

A volume might easily be written about the old Little Miami railroad; about the crude manner of its construction; the trouble its promoters had in financing it; about the trouble they had in getting through the towns along its right-of-way; about the queer little engines, all wood-fired, and the flimsy little coaches which were first used. But such a discussion, interesting as it might be, is not particularly a part of history of Greene county. It should be said, however, that a long and even violent argument ensued when the question arose as to which street of Xenia should have the honor of having the road on it. The argument narrowed down to the streets on either side of the public square. The tax-payers on the east side wanted the road, but they felt the company should pay something for the privilege of using their street. The citizens along the street west of the public square, headed by the Hivlings, came forward with a proposition to give the company a right-of-way. The Hivlings had just completed a fine hotel

at the southeast corner of Main and Detroit streets and were naturally very anxious that the railroad be built along Detroit street. Dr. Joshua Martin, who lived farther down the street in probably the finest brick house in the town, was very much opposed to the road coming down Detroit street, but the Hivlings seemed to have more influence with the town council, and when the final vote on the question came, it was voted to allow the railroad the use of Detroit street. And it was so ordered, and the railroad is there to this day.

Another interesting phase of the Little Miami railroad and Xenia is concerned with its stations in the city. As every one knows, all the Pennsylvania trains running to and from Springfield make two stops in Xenia: One at the little, old-fashioned building on the southeast corner of Second and Detroit streets, and the other stop at the union station at the crossing of the two branches of the Pennsylvania about three blocks (the company now calls it two-tenths of a mile) southwest of the original station. The first station mentioned was formerly the property of Ryan Gowdy, and when he died he left a will in which he bequeathed the little brick building in question to the railroad company as a station house, but with the stipulation that the company should, for all time to come, stop all of their trains at the station. The company accepted the property with this understanding, and it is for this reason that the Springfield division of the Pennsylvania has two stations in Xenia. Another land-mark connected with the Pennsylvania roads in Xenia is the ancient station at the crossing of the two branches of the road. This was built at the time the Columbus & Xenia branch of the Pennsylvania was in the process of construction in the latter part of the forties. This venerable brick building was a combination hotel-station and for many years was the only first class hotel in Xenia. John Durant, the superintendent of the Little Miami, lived in this building with his family for years. The trains used to make a dinner stop here—in the days before the modern dining car was known.

It is necessary at this point to digress a little to bring in the story of that part of the Pennsylvania which runs from Dayton to Xenia, and from the latter city to Columbus. It must be understood that there were three roads originally, the three now being combined as a part of the Pennsylvania lines: (1) the road from Cincinnati to Springfield via Xenia, that is the Little Miami originally; (2) the Columbus & Xenia road; (3) the Dayton & Western road.

The Little Miami road has been discussed. The next road was the Columbus & Xenia, chartered on March 12, 1844, and ready for operation in February, 1850. The next step in the history of these two roads was taken on November 30, 1853, when the Little Miami and Columbus & Xenia

roads were consolidated. To add to the complicated railroad history of the county about this time, a third road, which had been in the process of construction since 1850, was opened for business. This third road was known as the Dayton & Western, and in 1853 the road between Dayton and Xenia was ready for operation. But the '50s saw still another railroad running through Greene county, and while it was not completed for nearly a score of years afterwards, yet it figured in the railroad mergers of the '50s and '60s as they affected Greene county.

It might seem a little strange that men with money would build two railroads between towns sixteen miles apart, as are Xenia and Dayton. But as a matter of fact there were two steam roads projecting between these two towns about the same time—1850. This may not appear so strange when it is within the memory of citizens now living in Xenia that the same financial interests furnished the capital to build two electric lines between Xenia and Dayton within the last score of years. The fact remains that a company was organized in the fore part of the '50s to build a road from Dayton to Belpre, a town on the Ohio river in Washington county. This company, known as the Dayton, Xenia & Belpre Railroad Company, commenced grading at once through Greene county. Some of the townships of the county, particularly Silvercreek, voted to bond themselves to the extent of ten thousand dollars to help matters along. Nine thousand dollars was actually paid over to the company before it was found that the company was going to suspend operations. The road was graded from Dayton through Xenia and as far east as Jamestown in the '50s—and stopped—and stopped for about twenty years.

It has been mentioned that the Little Miami and Columbus & Xenia roads were consolidated in 1853, and that the Dayton & Western between Dayton and Xenia was completed the same year. The next step in the railroad history of the county was taken on January 1, 1865, at which time the consolidated Little Miami and Columbus & Xenia roads entered into a joint lease of the Dayton & Western. On the 4th of the following month these same two companies bought the Dayton, Xenia & Belpre railroad from Dayton to Xenia. This somewhat complicated merger was dissolved on November 30, 1869, and a new contract was negotiated. The new agreement provided that the Little Miami should lease the Columbus & Xenia railroad for a period of ninety-nine years, and with the privilege of renewal in 1868. Within a month from the time this contract was entered into, on January 1, 1870, the Little Miami road entered into a lease with the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway Company, whereby it leased to this company for a period of ninety-nine years, renewable forever, its road, all rolling stock and equipment of all kinds, together with its leased roads (the branch

between Columbus and Xenia, and the one between Dayton and Xenia). And it is this company which is today a part of the great Pennsylvania System.

It has been noticed that an effort was made to build a road from Dayton through Xenia to Belpre in the '50s, but that the company failed. In the middle of the '70s, just after the panic of 1873, the agitation for such a road to open up the coal fields of southeastern Ohio culminated in the organization of a company to take over the old right-of-way and build the road. Greene county, as well as the other counties through which the proposed road was to pass, was ready to help the project. It was thought that most of the old grade could be utilized, and thus the road could be built quickly and without a heavy outlay. Twenty years before this time Silvercreek township had voted ten thousand dollars for a road to go through Jamestown, and, as previously stated, had paid in all but one thousand dollars of the amount. In 1875 the township came forward with the other thousand dollars. The road was soon under construction, but it was found advisable in many places to change the right-of-way from the original road of the fifties. Parts of the 1850 grade may be seen east of Xenia to this day. While the road was never built through to Belpre, it was soon running as far east as Chillicothe.

The Pennsylvania road parallels this road from Dayton to Xenia. It subsequently came to be known as the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton, and was operated under this name until the summer of 1917, when it passed into the hands of the Baltimore & Ohio. This road now runs two passenger trains each way daily between Dayton and Wellston. Xenia and Jamestown are the only two stations on the road in Greene county.

#### BIG FOUR AND ERIE RAILROADS.

The Big Four and the Erie railroads cut across the northwestern corner of Greene county, that corner of the county falling between a direct route from Springfield to Dayton. The Big Four, the first to be built, was first known as the Mad River & Lake Erie road, and was chartered by the General Assembly in 1832. Its charter stated that the company proposed to build a railroad from Sandusky on Lake Erie to Cincinnati on the Ohio. It was built finally, but it was eighteen years before it was completed across the state. Construction work began at both ends of the line, and at places between, but financial difficulties had to be met and solved year after year, the result being that it was nearly a score of years before trains were running its entire length. Trains were running from Sandusky south as far as Urbana in the summer of 1848, and north from Cincinnati to Dayton about

the same time, the part between Urbana and Dayton, via Springfield, being the last constructed. History records that the first train between Springfield to Dayton made its maiden trip on January 1, 1850. The road through Greene county passes east of Mad river and through the village of Osborn, all of the road in the county being within Bath township. The village of Osborn was laid out after the road was built through the township, and was named in honor of E. F. Osborn, the superintendent of the railroad at the time.

#### DETROIT, TOLEDO & IRONTON RAILROAD.

The newspapers of Greene county make frequent references to railroads that were being projected through the county. From 1850 to 1880 there was scarcely a year in which some railroad was not proposed that would pass through the county. But for the score of such proposed railroads there has been just one which gave any promise of what its promoters claimed for it, and this railroad stands today midst its grass-grown environment as the dream of someone who had hoped to build a straight line railroad between Cincinnati and Columbus.

A glance at a map of the state of Ohio will show a railroad running from Sedalia, in Madison county, to Kingman, in Clinton county. This road wends its rusty way across Greene county, passing through the village of Bowersville on its way across. Behind this road is a story, a story which will probably never find its way into the records of the state's history. It has been the ambition of more than one company to construct a direct line from Cincinnati to Columbus, but it was not until the Miami Valley & Columbus Company was organized that any definite work was done toward the construction of the road. The road as planned was to run between Columbus and Waynesville, at which latter town it was to connect with what was then called the Cincinnati Northern, now the Pennsylvania. Waynesville is a small town in the northern part of Warren county, about three miles south of the Greene-Warren county line.

Construction began on the road in 1877 and all seemed to be going well. Suddenly, in 1880, the whole plan collapsed and since that year not a shovel of dirt has been thrown or a tie laid on this road about which the papers had been talking for years. All that is left of the project is the road connecting Sedalia and Kingman, and about twenty miles of grade. The total distance between Columbus and Waynesville is about seventy-five miles, and the newspapers of the day reported that at least fifty miles of the distance had been graded when work was suspended. There were several different propositions to complete the road as originally planned, but as nearly forty

years have passed since work on the road was suspended it does not appear that anything will ever be done with it. The part built belongs to the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton and is usually referred to as the Kingman branch of that road, or, for some reason, is locally known as the "Grasshopper."

GREENE COUNTY BUYS RAILROAD BONDS.

It is not generally known at the present time that when the first railroads were being built through the state that practically every county in the state through which a railroad passed bought railroad stock and bonds. Greene county was one of the number to indulge in the luxury of railroad stocks and bonds, and, interesting to state, made a handsome profit on the venture. For several years the county paid much of its current indebtedness with the dividends from its railroad stocks and bonds. The old iron fence around the public square, for instance, was paid for with railroad dividends. The present jail was paid for entirely out of railroad dividends, and scores of other much needed improvements were made possible because of the big dividends which the county enjoyed from its railroad stocks and bonds.

A complete tabulation of the railroad stock and bonds owned by the county in 1858 may be found in the county commissioners journal, Vol. VII, pp. 525-526. A summary of the stocks and bonds there listed is as follows (all the stock being listed at \$50 par value):

84 shares Little Miami .....	\$ 4,200	
4 shares Little Miami .....	200	\$ 4,400
<hr/>		
1,000 shares Columbus & Xenia.....	\$50,000	
28 shares Columbus & Xenia.....	1,400	
51 shares Columbus & Xenia.....	2,550	53,950
<hr/>		
200 shares Dayton & Xenia.....	\$10,000	
100 shares Dayton & Xenia.....	5,000	
100 shares Dayton & Xenia.....	5,000	
100 shares Dayton & Xenia.....	5,000	25,000
<hr/>		
Total shares of railroad stock.....		\$83,350

In addition to the stock owned by the county to the amount of \$83,350, it also owned \$8,600 worth of bonds issued by the Columbus & Xenia railroad. This brought the total railroad investment of the county up to the respectable sum of \$91,950. Listed with all these stocks and bonds, and showing that the county had confidence in at least one turnpike company, are twelve shares of stock, par value of \$50, in the Cincinnati, Lebanon & Springfield Turnpike Company, with a total value of \$600. This schedule of the stock



and bonds owned by the county was filed with the county commissioners on October 8, 1858, the grand total being listed at the par value of \$92,550.

#### ELECTRIC LINES.

In 1918 there are two electric lines running through Greene county: One from Dayton to Xenia and thence north through Yellow Springs to Springfield; the other from Dayton to Springfield and passing through the towns of Fairfield and Osborn in Bath township in the extreme northwest corner of the county. Two other electric lines have been built in the county, but both are now a part of the past history of the transportation system of the county. One was known as the Rapid Transit, and connected Dayton and Xenia: the other was a line from Dayton through Bellbrook to Spring Valley. The former was dismantled several years ago, while the Dayton-Spring Valley line was in operation until the winter of 1917-1918.

The history of the electric lines of the county goes back to the middle of the '90s. Strange as it may seem, there were two separate companies endeavoring to build a line from Xenia to Dayton at the same time, and both actually succeeded in getting their lines in operation. Both companies secured charters in 1895, but it was several years before they had their lines constructed, one being the present line between the two cities, the other being north of the railroads between the two places. The Rapid Transit line went out of Xenia by way of the fair ground and then wended a circuitous route across the country to Dayton. It was very appropriately called the "scenic route."

The company which succeeded in establishing itself permanently was the Dayton, Springfield and Urbana Electric Railway Company, which company, because it took it so long to get its line in operation, was usually referred to as the "Damned, Slow and Uncertain" line. This company also obtained a franchise from the Greene county commissioners for the Dayton-Springfield line through the northwest corner of the county—the franchise bearing the date of November 4, 1895. Both lines between Xenia and Dayton were in operation by 1900, as was the line between Dayton and Spring Valley. The latter road opened for regular service on Monday, April 23, 1900. The Rapid Transit line was in operation several years, but it was seen that it was not a profitable venture and its promoters finally decided to abandon it. The same reason led to the abandonment of the line from Dayton to Spring Valley in the winter of 1917-1918.

The line from Xenia to Springfield was of later construction. The first trolley was put up on this line on January 20, 1902; the first track laid on

April 7; the first regular cars between Springfield and Yellow Springs were started on June 17, and the first between Xenia and Yellow Springs started on August 17. While these four separate lines have been constructed within the county, there have been others projected, the most prominent being the one between Xenia and Cedarville. A franchise was granted by the county commissioners for this line and it was even surveyed. Then there was considerable talk of a line from Xenia east through Jamestown, but it likewise failed to materialize.

## CHAPTER XXXIX.

### THE CITY OF XENIA.

The city of Xenia, the county seat of Greene county, was laid out as the seat of justice in the fall of 1803, the same year the county was organized. The facts concerned with its selection as the county seat and certain other facts connected with its early history are set forth in the chapter on the organization of the county and need not be repeated here. It is interesting to note that there are three other towns of the same name in the United States—Powell county, Kentucky; Clay county, Illinois; Bourbon county, Kansas. It is certain that the Xenias of Illinois and Kansas were founded after the Ohio Xenia, but there is a probability that the Kentucky Xenia was in existence in 1803 and that some of the Kentuckians who came to Greene county knew of it.

Xenia is in latitude 39 degrees, 41 minutes north, and longitude 83 degrees, 56 minutes west. The center of the city at Detroit and Main streets is 935.15 feet above sea level. The city as it stands today contains 2.21 square miles, or approximately 1,414 acres. There are 22.32 miles of streets within the corporate limits, and 12.12 miles of sidewalks. Of the street mileage, there are 8.4 miles paved—3.24 miles with brick and 5.16 miles with asphalt.

The first house to be built in the town was erected in 1804 by John Marshall, his little log cabin in the midst of a dense forest being the nucleus of the present city of nine thousand. There appears to have been another log cabin raised prior to the hewed log cabin of the Rev. James Fowler, but it is not known who erected it. That the little village rapidly filled up with settlers is evidenced by the fact that in 1805 a log school house was erected. The first frame building was owned by David A. Sanders. William A. Beatty, the director of the town for several years after John Paul, the original proprietor and first director, had left for Indiana, was definitely located on East Main street in the fall of 1805. Beatty's tavern, as has been stated in another chapter, housed the first courts in Xenia, and continued to be so used until the first court house was ready for use in 1807.

#### XENIA IN 1811.

The order in which the first settlers arrived in the town will never be known, but there has very fortunately been preserved a vivid description of the town as it appeared in 1811, this being a reminiscent article by Samuel Wright, one of the first settlers of the town, who in 1856, then being ninety

years of age, gave the data for an article in which he described the town as it appeared to him in 1811 and a resumé of which is here reproduced from Robinson's 1902 history of Greene county :

Xenia was a stumpy, struggling village in 1811. The first house in it was built by one John Marshall on the southwest corner lot of the then corporation of Xenia, Lot No. 193. It was raised on the 27th day of April, 1804. On Main street there was at that time twenty-three structures; two of those were of brick, four of frame, the balance hewed-log houses and four log shops.

On Detroit street there were two log currying shops, seven one-story log houses, only two of them having shingle roofs and brick chimneys, and two frame houses two stories high. In 1856, the year Wright gave the data for this article, only two of these houses on Detroit street were still standing. One stood on the present site of the mill south of the upper depot, then belonging to Jonathan Wallace; the other stood on the corner of Second and Detroit streets. This house was standing in 1900 on West Main street, being at that time the first house west of John Lutz's blacksmith shop. It was bought by Major John Heaton and moved to that place.

On Main street was the Gowdy two-story frame house, afterward used as a tin-shop by James Nigh. In front of this building was the only brick pavement in the place. The streets had no gravel on them, were level from side to side, without gutters to carry off the water, and in rainy weather were a mass of mud, deep at that, from one side to the other. There were two ponds of water on Main street, one opposite, or near where Charles Trader's grocery stood in 1900; the other and larger pond was opposite the residence of Dr. C. M. Galloway.

Remembrance Williams erected the first cabin near where is now the city of Xenia. He emigrated from Virginia to Kentucky in 1790, thence to what is now Greene county in 1800, crossing the Ohio at the mouth of the Licking. He entered a section of land where is now Robert's Villa, and north of that he erected his cabin and continued to live there until 1814, when he sold the largest part of that land to David Connelly and removed to near Madison, Indiana. He gave to his son, John Williams, a portion of the farm on the east side of said section. That cabin was built almost three years before Xenia was laid out, and he and his family were alone in what is now Xenia.

John Marshall had the honor of building the first cabin inside of the corporation limits of Xenia. He purchased lots Nos. 193 and 194, and the 27th day of April, 1804, his cabin was raised on what is now known on the town plat as lot No. 193. Two grandsons of the old pioneer were living in 1900, William and James Marshall, their father, Robert T. Marshall, being born in that cabin on the 4th day of September, 1804. He was the first white child born in the town.

William A. Beatty, who had come from Georgetown, Kentucky, some time previous to 1803, was the first to keep a tavern in Xenia. He was next to follow in the line of improvements, and yet it was a matter of doubt which house would be completed first, his or the one that was being built at the same time for the Rev. James Towler, both of which were two-story log houses. But the evidence seems to be in favor of Mr. Beatty. One thing we do know that Mr. Beatty was doing all that he could to get his done first. Noah Strong was on hand with his two oxen that he had brought with him from the far away hills of Vermont, namely, "Buck and Brandy," and, more than that, the honorable court had engaged the west room upstairs in which to hold court, and they must have it by the 15th of November, 1804. The building was finished and opened as a tavern on the first day of October, 1804, on lot No. 14, opposite the public square, on the lot next to the present Xenia National Bank, the lot and building now thereon being the property of C. P. Dowling.

The Rev. Towler did not have long to wait for his new building. He had purchased

lots Nos. 39 and 40. He was a native of Prince Edwards county, Virginia, and emigrated to Greene county in 1803. This house was better known as the Crumbaugh house, and stood on the north side of Main street. He was the first postmaster of Xenia.

Josiah Grover was the second clerk of courts of Greene county, accepting that position in 1808 after his brother-in-law, John Paul, had resigned. His first cabin was erected on lot No. 192, West Third street, on the corner opposite the home occupied in 1900 by Timothy O'Connell. He came to Xenia previous to 1803.

Benjamin Grover, a brother of Josiah, was the first school teacher of Xenia. The school house was on West Third street, and stood on the lot that was the home of Mrs. James Kyle in later years. It was a one-story log house, and was built in 1805. It was used as a school house for several years, Hugh Hamill, who came to Xenia in 1810, teaching in that house.

Col. James Collier was one of the first to come into the Northwest Territory in the year 1796. He stopped at what was called Holes station (Miamisburg), and from there went to the Wilson settlement, thence to the farm of Capt. Nathan Lamme, and finally to Xenia in the early part of 1805. In that year he erected his cabin on lot No. 60, on Detroit street. When he built his first cabin in 1805, he set it back about twenty feet from the in-line of the sidewalk so that in 1813, when he erected his noted tavern, that was in the rear and became the kitchen. When in later years the march of improvement made way with the old to be replaced with the new, that old hewed-log cabin home, then weather-boarded, was moved to East Market street, and located on the lot immediately west of the East Market street high school. It was not torn down until 1900.

Hon. John Alexander, grandfather of the late William J. Alexander, at this time owned a whole square on West Market and Church streets. He had emigrated from South Carolina in 1804 and was the first lawyer to settle in Xenia. In 1811 his house was appraised at seven hundred and fifty dollars, and was still standing in 1900 on North King street, the property of C. C. Shearer, a relic of the past, and when moved to its present site was as good as when first erected.

James Bunton (or Bunting) arrived in Xenia in 1805. He was a good carpenter, and we find that he was a man of enterprise. In 1806 he purchased lots No. 124 and 130. Upon the former he erected a two-story log structure on West Second street, better known as the McWhirk property, where David Hutchison later built two brick houses.

Eli Adams came to Xenia in 1808. In 1810 he purchased of William A. Beatty, then director of the town of Xenia, lot No. 140, on the corner of Second and Collier streets. This house will be remembered by the older citizens of the city as the home of Tillbury Jones, marshal of Xenia in the early '50s.

In addition to his tavern on Main street, and which was also the early place of holding the courts of the county, Mr. Beatty was the owner of lot No. 165 on the southwest corner of Second and Collier streets, and on this lot he had built his cabin home. This home was valued for taxable purposes in 1811 at one hundred and sixty dollars.

William Gordon was the owner of lot No. 33 in the year 1807. This lot was situated on the northeast corner of Main and Whiteman streets. George Gordon, his brother, came up from Warren county with his team to assist in hauling the logs for this building, which was a two-story log structure, forty feet square, and was for many years used by William Gordon as a store room. Major George Gordon had previously moved his brother, William, from Warren county to Xenia in 1805. His brother had at that time purchased lot No. 176, situated on the corner of third and Whiteman streets. Mr. Gordon had erected on this lot a small log house, the first brewery of Xenia. This building was once owned by James Brown. The older persons can yet remember when this part of Xenia was known by the name of "Brown Town." He was killed in the gravel pit west of Xenia, June 4, 1849, aged seventy-three years. His death was caused by the caving in of the surface dirt. When dug out he was dead.

Hugh Hamill came to Xenia from Preble county in 1810, and purchased lots No.

197, 198, 199 and 200. These lots fronted on Third street, and were situated between Barrett and Maxwell streets, running thence south to the bank of Shawnee creek. He erected his cabin near the brow of the hill, overlooking Shawnee, on the south end of lot No. 200. In the rear of his cabin on this lot extending west to Barrett street was his tanyard. He erected a brick house in 1845.

Dr. Andrew Davidson, on the 11th day of November, 1808, purchased of Henry Phenix lot No. 38, on which in 1811 he erected a two-story brick house. This lot was on Main street, and the building was on the site later occupied by John Knox's saddlery shop. Dr. Davidson came to Xenia in 1805 and was the first physician to locate in the town.

In the year 1805 James Gowdy first came to Xenia and built his store room, the first one in Xenia, on lot No. 34, first lot east of Greene street on Main, and here in 1806 he commenced selling merchandise.

The first court house for Greene county was let to William Kendall in 1806. Previous to this time the county had been paying rent, first for the house of Peter Borders, down on Beaver creek, second to William A. Beatty in Xenia. This latter house was completed in 1807.

Samuel Gamble had erected a small house on lot No. 144, on the corner of Second and Monroe streets, north side, the same lot later being owned by John Kyle. Mr. Gamble, in 1811, also owned one-half of lot No. 15 on Main street.

John Gregg was, in 1811, the owner of the first lot east of the northeast corner of Second and Detroit streets. On this lot, No. 134, he raised and completed a cabin.

Capt. John Hivling, in 1811, was the owner of lot No. 13, upon which he had completed a building on the corner of Main and Detroit street, on the present site of the Xenia National Bank.

Joseph Hamill was the owner, in 1811, of lot No. 14, opposite the court house, and it was here he kept his noted tavern, or what was known as Hamill's Inn. He was one of the early justices of peace of Xenia township. His building was part of what in later years was known as the Puterbaugh store, where Kinney and Steele were murdered and the fire of August 3, 1845, followed.

Abraham Larue was the owner, in 1811, of lots No. 131 and 132, comprising about one-fourth of what was later known as the J. C. McMillan corner. Mr. Larue's lots extended from the corner running west on Second street one-half the distance of the square and from the same corner running north the same distance on Detroit street. His house was erected on lot 132. He also owned out-lots No. 7 and 8.

David Laughead, Sr., was the owner, in 1811, of lot No. 143, on East Second street, better known as the home in later years of Mrs. Newton, the mother of Chancey and Samuel Newton. Upon that lot he erected a one-story house. The ground was later occupied by the handsome LeSourd and Stewart residences.

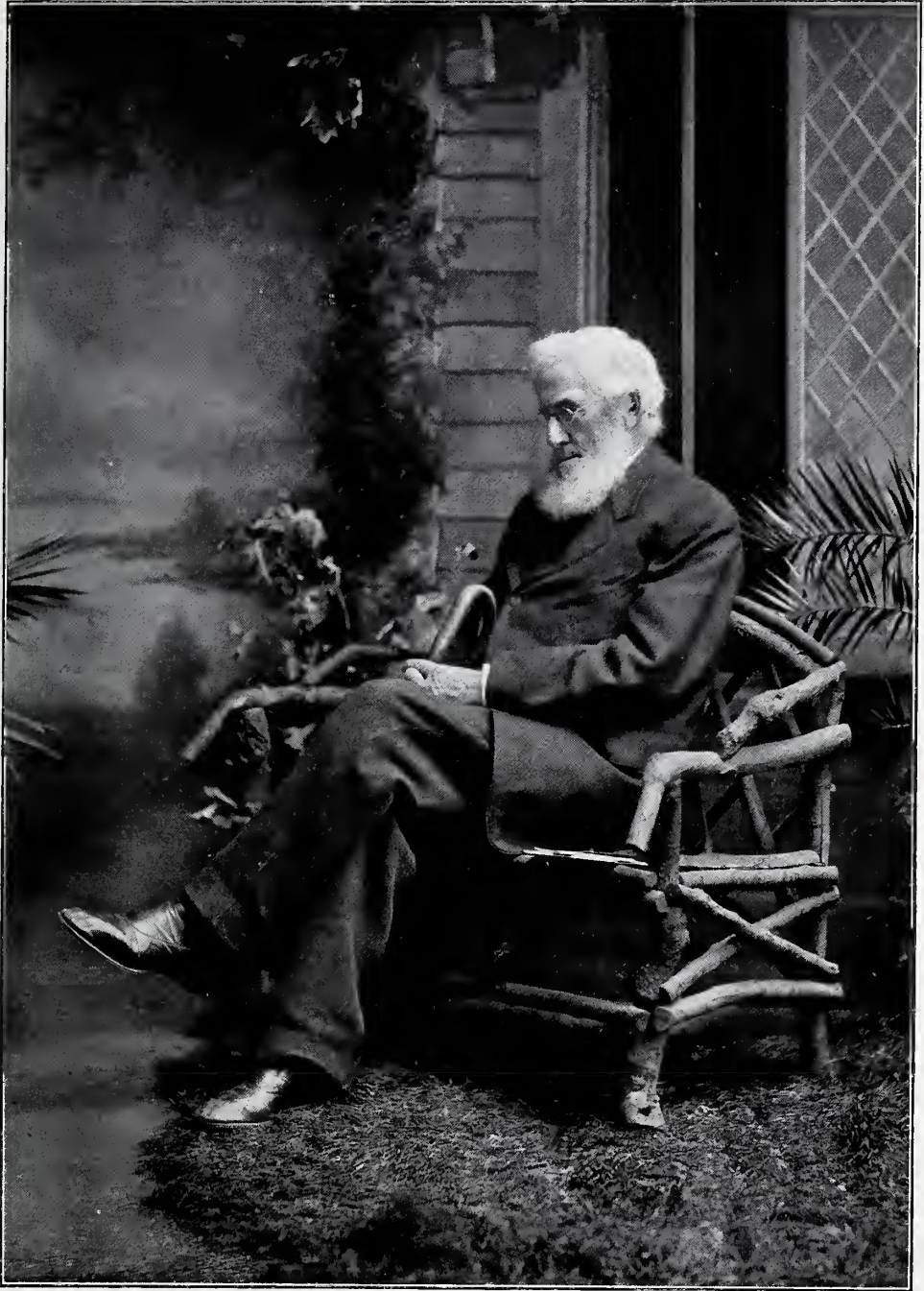
Peter Pelham, who came from Boston, Massachusetts, in 1807, and who was the first auditor of Greene county, erected his cabin on lot No. 144, at the corner of Main and Barrett streets. The house he built was still standing in 1900.

Hezekiah Sanders came to Xenia in 1807. He was the owner of lot No. 133 and erected his house, a two-story frame, on the northwest corner of Second and Detroit streets. This corner lot later became the home of the Xenia Bank, the building which was erected for the bank now being the home of the Messenger brothers, physicians. When the bank building was erected, Maj. John Heaton bought the old Sanders building and moved it to his lot on West Main street.

John Sterritt built his cabin on lot No. 89, at the northwest corner of Market and Whitman streets. This property is better known as the old home of Col. John Duncan. Subsequently it became the home of Mrs. Elias Quinn and daughters.

James Watson, in 1811, was the owner of lot No. 7 on West Main street. He had a cabin erected where the Miami Powder Company later had their local offices.

Henry Barnes, Sr., a native of Virginia, removed to Kentucky in 1799, and came to



SAMUEL BATTEN.





Xenia in 1807. He was the father of Henry Barnes, Jr., a former sheriff of the county, and the grandfather of Major George Barnes. He was the owner of lots No. 29 and 68. No. 29 was situated at the corner of Main and Collier streets and here he had his cabin home. Lot No. 68 was in the rear of this, fronting on Market street.

Jonathan H. Wallace was at this time the owner of lot No. 180, which was located at the southwest corner of Third and Detroit streets. He came to Xenia in 1807 and was for many years engaged in the business of making hats. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and after removed to Clark county, Ohio, where he died at the home of Anthony Byers on April 25, 1850, aged seventy years.

Captain Robert Gowdy had a tanyard in 1811 on the corner of Third and Detroit streets. His currying shop, a long one-story log house, stood near that place. Across Detroit street east, where is now located the lumber yard of McDowell & Torrence, was another tanyard, carried on under the firm name of William Alexander and Richard Conwell. Mr. Alexander was a brother of Hon. John Alexander, a native of South Carolina, and who died on June 3, 1824, and is buried on the lot of his brother, John, in Woodland cemetery.

And thus was Xenia, as far as householders were concerned, in the year A. D. 1811.

#### EARLY BUSINESS MEN.

The first half of the city's history saw a large number of men engaged in a wide variety of vocations. There was in the ante-bellum days a great number of small business men, such as bakers, tailors, carpenters, cabinet-makers, candle-makers, wheelwrights, chairmakers, tanners, tavern-keepers, grocers, hatters, etc. Scores of these remained in the town only a few years and a large number of them made so slight an impression on the public that their names have not even been preserved for future generations.

The tanner was an essential factor of every new town in those days, and among the many tanners of Xenia in its early days are recalled the following: John Marshall, probably the first one to follow the trade in the town; Hugh Hamill, Robert Gowdy, William Alexander, Richard Conwell and James Steele. Any new town requires carpenters, even though most of the houses are log structures, and Xenia had its share. Henry Barnes, James Bunton (or Bunting), Abraham Larue, Robert Nesbit, Amos Darraugh and Thomas Gillespie were among those who came to the town during the first two decades of its history. Of tavern-keepers there have been a long list. The first man to open a "house of entertainment," an expression which was very common in those days, was William A. Beatty. Soon thereafter came James Collier, Joseph Hamill and a number of small tavern-keepers, most of their revenue being derived from the sale of liquors. Hivling, Ewing and Merrick were of a later date, all, however, coming in before the Civil War. Among several others who are given as "firsts" in their respective callings are the following: William Gordon, brewer; Jonathan H. Wallace, hatter; John Stull, tailor; John William, blacksmith; John Mitten, wheelwright and chairmaker.

The first business man in Xenia was William Beatty, who opened his tavern on October 1, 1804. It is probable that he kept a few commodities for

sale in addition to the stock of intoxicating liquors which was to be found in every well-regulated tavern in those days. But the first real merchant of the town was James Gowdy, and the Gowdy family were the most important merchants of the village for the first quarter of a century after the town was established.

James Gowdy was born in Pennsylvania in 1777, May 20, and died in Xenia on December 24, 1853. Some of the Gowdys later settled in Kentucky, where James and Samuel, brothers, opened a store at Mt. Sterling in the fall of 1802. Hearing of the establishment of a new county in Ohio, and of the selection of the county seat, and also the fact that the county seat was still without a store, James Gowdy paid a visit to the county seat in question to see about the advisability of establishing a store in the new town. And so came James Gowdy to Xenia in 1805. Gowdy was a keen business man, and as soon as he saw the infant village he decided that here was a good location for a store. He returned at once to Kentucky, where he and his brother divided the goods they had in stock, and in the fall of the same year he landed in Xenia and opened the first store in the town. It stood on lot No. 34, the first lot east of Greene street on Main street. His brother, Samuel, remained at Mt. Sterling until the summer of 1806, when, having closed out the business there, he came to Xenia with the remainder of his stock. And so came the second merchant into the town. The two brothers were in partnership, and also had a younger brother, Ryan, with them, the latter then being a mere youth. The Gowdys prospered from the beginning and soon had a large trade scattered over a wide stretch of territory. The partnership continued until the summer of 1814, when they dissolved by mutual consent, each taking a part of the goods and conducting separate stores. Samuel quit after about five or six years and sold his store and settled on a farm near the town. James and his brother, Ryan, continued in the store together until Ryan reached his majority, when he left the store. However, before this time James Gowdy had employed a clerk by the name of John Ewing, a relative of his first wife, and when Ryan left he hired a clerk, or apprentice, as they were then called, one William Perkins by name.

James Gowdy had a number of partners before he finally retired from the store in 1838. John R. Gowdy, the oldest son of Samuel, became his partner on July 5, 1833, and continued as such until his death in March, 1834. At that time Alexander G. Zimmerman and John A. Gowdy, a son of Robert, were taken into the firm, the title of the new firm being Gowdy, Ewing & Company. Ewing had had an interest in the store for several years before this date. John A. Gowdy disposed of his interest in the firm on August 12, 1836, and moved to Illinois. The next change in the firm was made on July 19, 1838, when James Gowdy sold out his interest in the store to John

Ewing and Alexander G. Zimmerman. It seems that he took as part payment the firm's share in a branch store which had been maintained at Jamestown for the previous eighteen months. James McBride had a full half interest in the Jamestown store, but the old pioneer merchant, then sixty-five years of age, took active charge of the store. The career of James Gowdy in his Jamestown store was not altogether satisfactory. In fact, he lost money, and in 1844 closed out the store. He had then been in the mercantile business since 1802, a period of forty-two years. He owned a number of lots in Xenia on which he had several buildings, and besides he was the owner of considerable land in the county. He devoted the last years of his life to the care of his extensive property interests and died in Xenia on December 24, 1853.

Ryan Gowdy, the younger brother of James Gowdy, was even a more prominent business man and of more value to the young town than his elder brother. It has been mentioned that he started in as a clerk with his brother in 1805. He was then only about eleven years of age, and he remained with his brother until he reached his majority. He then commenced business for himself. His first contribution to the town in the way of a building was made in 1827, in which year he erected a large brick business building on the southwest corner of Main and Detroit streets, for years known as the Nunnemaker corner, and now occupied by the Allen building. He next erected a building on the southwest corner of Detroit and Market streets, where he opened a store. His third move took him on Main street, where he purchased a large brick house opposite the court house, it being the one which was burned on the night of August 3, 1845. It was this so-called Puterbaugh fire which followed the murder of two young men in the building, James Kinney, a brother of the poet, Coates Kinney, and William Steele, a son of Thomas Steele, the old schoolmaster. In this building Ryan Gowdy was in business for several years prior to its destruction by fire. After the loss of the store and building by fire he went to Missouri, but he was soon back in Xenia. He now opened his fourth store, a grocery at the corner of Main and Whiteman streets, where he continued in business until 1848. In that year he sold his store, disposed of much of his other property, and set out for the unknown West. He was gone four years, during which time he traveled up and down the Pacific coast prospecting for gold, but added nothing to his worldly possessions. He returned to Xenia in 1852, became a school teacher, and for the next ten years was constantly employed in the school room, teaching up to within three years of his death, his last teaching being done in Richland county, Ohio. He died near Francona, Ohio, on June 6, 1863, at the age of sixty-eight. He was treasurer of the county during 1819 and 1820, and served as county commissioner from 1833

to 1836, being on the board when the brick jail and a large two-story brick market house were erected on the public square.

Another of the prominent merchants of the first half of the last century was John Hivling. Born in Pennsylvania on July 14, 1779, he came to Greene county in 1809, bought the old Paul mill and operated it a couple of years and then settled in Xenia, where he lived until his death in 1851, for forty years identified with the business life of the town. He first bought the southeast corner lot on Main and Detroit streets, the site of the present Xenia National Bank. There was a log building then on the corner and in it he kept hotel for two years. He then bought a thousand-acre tract adjoining the town, but never pretended to be a farmer. In 1815 he bought the lot, building and a stock of goods from one Davis, a small storekeeper, the lot later being known as the Forsman lot, situated on Main street. He had been elected sheriff of the county in the fall of 1811 and it was undoubtedly this fact that induced him to dispose of his mill and locate in Xenia. He took the office in the spring of 1812 and held it for two terms—four years. He has the unique honor of publicly whipping the last man in accordance with an order of the court, October 30, 1812. Hivling held no public office after quitting the office of sheriff. He built the first hotel of any size in the town and for years the Hivling House was the leading hotel of the town. He was active in the construction of the Little Miami railroad and was largely instrumental in having it pass down Detroit street. He was a member of the first board of directors of the railroad and remained on the board until 1840 when he refused re-election. When the Xenia Bank was organized he became its first president, and when it became one of the branches of the State Bank of Ohio he was one of the largest stockholders in the new bank. He was a member of the state board of control of the State Bank from 1845 until his death. He died on November 4, 1851, in Xenia. His funeral was in charge of the Masons, of which fraternal organization he was one of the charter members in Xenia. Michael Nunnemaker, son-in-law of Hivling, was born in Maryland on August 3, 1790, and settled in Xenia in 1816, shortly afterward entering the employ of Hivling, and for several years was his bookkeeper and principal salesman. He married Mary Hivling, the daughter of his employer, on October 28, 1821. They had one daughter, Sarah A., who became the wife of John B. Allen, another of the prominent business men and one of the first bankers of the town. Nunnemaker eventually acquired a store of his own and continued in the mercantile business until his death, February 27, 1866.

If there was one particular trade that was important to a town in the early days it was that of the edge-tool maker. In the days when all edge tools were made by hand the man who could make an ax which would

keep an edge was always sure of all the work he could do. Such a man was Russell Rice, who came to Xenia in 1815 and lived here until his death, December 3, 1879. He came from Connecticut to Dayton with his parents in 1811, served in the War of 1812 and located in Xenia in 1815. He was probably the finest edge-tool maker the town has ever had, to which accomplishment he added that of fife playing. When only thirteen years of age he enlisted in a company organized at Dayton and went to the Canadian frontier as a fife player, his brother, Silas, being a drummer. For years after he settled in Xenia his fife was heard on militia muster days, and to the end of his life he was regarded as a skillful performer on the instrument. But he made his living by making edge tools, and in his little shop which stood where the Grand Hotel now stands, he turned out hundreds and thousands of edge tools of every description. His tools were responsible for the felling of more trees in the county than the tools manufacturer by any other man in the county. He died in his eighty-first year at the home of his daughter, Mrs. M. J. Sheley.

#### INCORPORATION OF XENIA.

It took two separate acts of the General Assembly of the state to get the town of Xenia incorporated. From the date of its platting in the fall of 1803 to 1817 it had no government of its own, being an integral part of Xenia township up to the latter year. When Jacob Smith was in the Legislature in 1813 he introduced and secured the passage of a bill to incorporate the town. It is not possible at this late day to ascertain why the citizens of the town did not take advantage of this act, since certainly they were behind the movement to incorporate the town or they would not have had the bill introduced. Whatever may have happened, the facts are that nothing was done. It was in the midst of the War of 1812 and this fact may have been the reason why nothing was done at that time.

The second attempt to incorporate the town was made following the passage of a second act in the session of 1817. The bill was introduced again by Smith, then in the state senate, while Joseph Tatman represented the county in the lower house. Following this act a petition was presented to the court of common pleas, a copy of which follows:

*To the Honorable Court of Common Pleas for the County of Greene:*

The representation and petition of the subscribing inhabitants and householders of Xenia town respectfully sheweth that the town of Xenia contains eighty-eight householders, and that the town of Xenia is the county seat of Greene county, and is situated on the north side of Shawnee run, about three miles from its juncture with the Little Miami river. It was laid out by Joseph C. Vance, Esq., late director of said town, in the year 1803, by order of the court of common pleas for the county of Greene.

That the plat of said town was duly recorded in the recorder's office of said county

in 1804, and is bounded and described as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a stake standing on the northwest corner of Back street, N. 78 degrees, E. 302 poles, to a stake in Remembrance Williams' land, thence S. 83 degrees, E. 61 poles, to the northeast corner of the out-lots of said town; thence S. 12 degrees, E. 83 poles, to the corner of lot 27; thence S. 7 degrees, W. 30 poles, to a stake on the bank of Shawnee run; thence down said run with the meanders thereof to the south end of West street; thence with the west side of said street, N. 12 degrees, W. 127 poles, to the beginning, including all the in-lots and fractional in-lots and all the out-lots numbered and marked on the town plat of said town, as recorded in the office of the recorder of said county, containing two hundred and seventy acres, be the same more or less; being comprised in one plat as aforesaid, and being a part of a survey for one thousand acres, No. 2243, entered and surveyed for Warren and Addison Lewis, patented to Robert Pollard.

That, on account of the late act for incorporating the said town having become inoperative, many inconveniences have been experienced by reason of disorders, nuisances, which have been openly and secretly created by ignorant or malicious persons, to the great detriment and annoyance of the peaceably disposed citizens, and that so long as the present state of things continues no appropriation can be made of the money collected by taxes for two years, during which the aforesaid law was inoperative, for the benefit of the town, by erecting a market house, improving the streets, or any other public or useful purpose by any existing authority competent thereto.

We therefore pray that the said town of Xenia may be incorporated according to law, and that the honorable court will take all due measures for the accomplishment of this desirable object, and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

William Kendall	James Gill	Andrew W. Davidson
Francis Kendall	John Gowdy	James Edwards
James Watson	Warren Madden	Henry Barnes, Sr.
Enoch Hixon	Ryan Gowdy	George Townsley
Robert Gillespie	Benjamin Newkirk	James Jacoby
William Currie	Robert McKenzie	John Deary
John Hivling	Samuel M. Good	Pleasant Moorman
Jonathan H. Wallace	J. Herdleson	Andrew Moorman
Eli Harlan	James Galloway, Jr.	George Townsley
James L. Johnson	John Dorsey	Josiah Davidson
John Davis	Thomas Gillespie	William Donnell
William Richards	Joseph Hamill	Elijah Ferguson
Joseph Culbertson	Samuel Shaw	William Ellsberry
Samuel Gowdy	Jonathan Owens	John Stull
John Flowers	Moses Collier	Lemuel John
James Popenoe	Robert True	William John
William Johnson	Robert Casbold	David Douglass
Henry McBride	John Milton	John Van Eaton
Abraham Corson	Miles Edwards	George M. Smith
David Stewart	Josiah Talbott	John Howard
Joseph Barker	James Gowdy	Stephen Howard
Joseph Johnson	David Connelly	John Williams

This petition with its sixty-six signers was filed with the court on March 24, 1817. It will be noticed that the petitioners claim only eighty-eight householders for the town, but this does not necessarily mean that there were that many voters. Some of the householders may have been women. A number of the residents were young men and had not yet had the time to accumulate a numerous progeny, so that the most extravagant estimate

would indicate that the population did not much exceed four hundred. Although this petition was filed in March, 1817, there was evidently no definite action taken on it for several months thereafter. Just what was taking place in the summer and fall of 1817 is not known, but it is certain that the question of incorporation was held in abeyance until the latter part of October. This is proven conclusively from the following records:

THE STATE OF OHIO, GREENE COUNTY.

*To the Sheriff of Said County, Greeting:*

We command you that you summon Moses Collier, David Douglas and Elijah Ferguson to be and appear before the Court of Common Pleas, at the Court House in Xenia, on Monday, the 27th instant, to testify and the truth to say concerning such matters as shall be then and there inquired of them respecting the petition for the incorporation of said Town of Xenia; and this they shall in no wise omit under the penalty which may fall thereon. Hereof fail not at your peril and have you them there this writ.

Witness: The Honorable Orris Perish, presiding judge of our said Court, at Xenia, this 22nd day of October, Anno Domini 1817.

JOSIAH GROVER, Clk.

Unfortunately, the village records are missing for the entire period of its existence as a village. In fact there are no official records of the town until 1834, when the village became a city. This indicates that there are at least seventeen years of the town's early history with no official records. It is not even known when the incorporation of the village took place, but it is evident that it must have taken place before the close of 1817.

XENIA, 1834-1845.

The history of Xenia from 1834 to 1845 was uneventful. The town grew gradually; better dwellings arose; business enterprises were started; churches were established; and in other ways the town began to assume something of the appearance which it has to-day. Many of the brick buildings erected during this period are still standing, some of them around the public square.

But the year 1845 marks a turning point in the history of the town, for in that year the first railroad, the Little Miami, reached the town. It is not difficult to imagine the enthusiasm of the people which followed the coming of the first train into the town. Business immediately became better, not only in the county seat, but over the entire county. The farmers now had a direct outlet for their grain and livestock, and no longer would they have to drive their livestock on foot to Cincinnati or Toledo. It also meant that manufacturing enterprises could find an outlet for their output, and manufactured goods bearing the stamp of Xenia began to find their way to outside markets. From 1845, therefore, Xenia has been in close communication with the outside world. About half a dozen years later the town had railroad con-

nection with Columbus on the east and Dayton on the west, the '50s seeing a railroad across Ohio from east to west through Xenia.

XENIA, 1845-1880.

It is difficult to select another distinctive date in the history of the town; that is, a date which marks an epoch in its history. A cursory view of the city's history for the past seventy years would indicate, however, that the year 1880 might be taken as the beginning of another epoch in its history. The period from 1845 to 1880 is marked by a few outstanding events which may first be noticed.

There are few people now living who can recall the horrors of the year 1848. That was the year of the terrible cholera scourge in the county, a year in which more people died here than in any other year of the county's history. In Xenia and the immediate vicinity alone there were no fewer than eighty-five deaths in a short time, and there were as many if not more in the remainder of the county who succumbed to the dread disease. The railroad between Xenia and Columbus was being graded that year and a large number of the Irish laborers employed on the construction crew were victims of the disease. They were buried by the score along the line of the railroad, and to this day there is a ridge along the railroad between Xenia and Cedarville where it is said that a large number of them found a last resting place. It was about this time that it was decided to abandon all of the cemeteries in Xenia and establish a new one outside the city's limits, and thus came about the present beautiful Woodland cemetery adjoining the county seat.

This same period from 1845 to 1880 saw the rise of the modern system of private, state and national banks. The Civil War period witnessed the beginning of the national bank system, while the General Assembly provided for a system of state banks, as well as placing such restrictions around private banks as would make them responsible institutions. The present city building made its appearance in the latter part of the '60s, although it was completely remodeled in 1880, since which year it has undergone few changes. The court house erected in the '40s received a substantial addition in the '70s, but continued in use until torn down in 1900 to make way for the present building. The present jail dates from the '60s, the workhouse not being opened until the fall of 1883. The '70s brought the twine industry to the city. The Central school building was erected in 1880, although the East Main street school building was erected several years prior to that year. All the other school buildings have appeared since 1880. Xenia College, Xenia Theological Seminary and a number of private schools arose during this period, all of which have disappeared except the theologi-



cal school. The public school system was introduced in the '50s, although it was about a decade later before the high school was established. The first public library was opened in 1878.

#### XENIA, 1880-1918.

The decade following 1880 saw the introduction of the first public utilities in the city and the beginning of all the modern city improvements which are to be found in the city in 1918. It is true that artificial gas had been introduced into the city before the Civil War, but its cost was so excessive that it was not extensively used. For several years it was sold at four dollars a thousand cubic feet, which, when compared with the thirty-five cent gas of 1918, will be seen to be a little too expensive for universal use. The natural gas which the city now enjoys did not reach the city until the spring of 1905.

The telephone and electric light were introduced into the city by Lewis H. Whiteman at the beginning of this decade, the telephone arriving in 1879 and electricity in 1881. The year 1886 marks the beginning of the present waterworks system, that year seeing the issuance of a franchise to John P. Martin for the installation of a waterworks plant. While Martin soon disposed of his plant, the following year saw a foreign company in the field and part of the present plant was soon in operation. The beginning of the waterworks plant also brought in the modern fire department and relegated the old "steamers" to oblivion. The sewerage system had its beginning in 1900, and the eighteen years which have since elapsed have seen the city well covered with a sewerage system and the installation of a modern sewage-disposal plant, the latter being completed in the spring of 1918. Following shortly after the beginning of the sewerage system came the first paved streets, parts of Main and Detroit streets, and there has hardly been a year since then that some paving has not been done, the year 1918 starting off with about eight and a half miles of paved streets out of a total street mileage of twenty-two.

The following paragraphs take up in some detail the more important of the public utilities of the city. In some cases it has been impossible to get exact data for the reason that the utility was a private enterprise and no public records were available to make a study of it. In such cases the historian has been compelled to rely on newspaper accounts and interviews with those who had more or less definite information concerning them.

#### ARTIFICIAL GAS.

Artificial gas was introduced into Xenia in the middle of the '40s and continued to be manufactured until about a year after the Ohio Fuel Supply Company brought natural gas into the city in 1905, a period of about sixty

years. During these many years there were many persons connected at one time or another with the local artificial gas business, but all of the original owners have long since passed away. The moving spirit of the first gas company was James Allison, the father of M. C. Allison, the son being the chief owner of the local plant for many years. For several years the principal owners included M. C. Allison, W. B. Fairchild, Judge James J. Winans and a Mrs. William Morris, but of this group M. C. Allison was the most important. After this group retired another set of owners came in, the second group including Eli Millan, Jacob Harbine, Frank McGervey and a few others, the first two named being the chief stockholders. It was this group which sold the local plant to a Chicago company, which, after a few years, went into bankruptcy, after which local capitalists took over the plant and operated it until it was discontinued in 1905, when natural gas was introduced into the city.

#### THE OHIO FUEL SUPPLY COMPANY.

The first natural gas in Xenia was brought in by the Ohio Fuel Supply Company in 1905 and it was only a short time until the manufacture of artificial gas was discontinued. The natural-gas company secured a franchise from the city on March 10, 1905, and has since operated under the franchise granted that year. According to the original agreement between the city and the company, the city was to have gas for the first three years at thirty-five cents a thousand feet, with ten cents off if paid within ten days after the beginning of the month. For the next seven years the rate was fixed at thirty-five cents, with five cents off. In 1916 the rate was fixed at forty cents, with five cents off, and this is the rate at the present time.

When the company came into the city it installed new mains and connections throughout the city, not making use of any of the property of the old artificial-gas company. The mains have been extended from year to year until now practically the entire city is covered with piping. The report of the local manager on March 1, 1918, shows that the company had 2,171 consumers in the city. The same company also supplies Wilberforce and Cedarville, having fifty-one consumers at the former place and two hundred sixty-five at the latter.

The gas is largely derived from the natural-gas fields of Ohio, although there is some gas piped from West Virginia. The pipe passing through Greene county is eighteen inches in diameter, and this insures the consumers an ample supply of gas. The present manager, R. W. Erwin, has been with the company as local manager since August 10, 1905, which indicates that his service has been entirely satisfactory.

## ELECTRICITY IN XENIA.

The first man to introduce electric lighting in the city of Xenia was L. H. Whiteman, who was also the first man to introduce the telephone to the citizens of the city. After Whiteman had made such a success of his telephone, he decided to install an electric-light plant. If he had not taken the initial step for the introduction of electricity in the city, it is doubtful whether the city would have ventured into the same field as early as it did.

An interesting light on the electric-light situation, as well as the gas situation, as it appeared in 1881, is furnished by the following extract from the *Democrat News*, of Xenia, dated April 23, 1881:

Xenia would have had the Brush electric light long before Akron if we had a few more Lew Whitemans in town. The cost of lighting this city should not be over \$1,000 per year, and that, too, from one end of the corporation to the other, and every alley will be as light as day. Our gasoline lamps alone cost far more than that. It is simply an infernal outrage to pay out so much money for gas, and be in darkness one-third of the time. Who is the committee on light? We would like to have you show your hand.

The electric light situation in the city is inextricably mixed up with the artificial gas situation. The gas people did not want to see electricity introduced into the city and fought it as long as they could. The gas crowd controlled the city council and it was for this reason that the initial venture of Whiteman into the electric-light field did not meet with the success which attended his telephone business. But be that as it may, in the early spring of 1881 Whiteman decided to show the people of Xenia what electric light really was. They had read about it; some of them had seen it; many doubted. Accordingly Capt. Whiteman made preparations in the spring of 1881 to install his plant. He bought what was known as a Brush dynamo and equipment and strung a wire the full length of Main street. He installed his dynamo in the old mill of John T. Harbine on West Main street, the mill furnishing the power. His lights were the old-fashioned carbon, sputtering lights, but they lighted up the street as it had never been lighted before. But his efforts to introduce electricity into the city were frowned upon by the powers that ruled the city's affairs, and he was forced to abandon his enterprise after exactly one month of operation. In the meantime the city had decided, or, to be exact, the gas people had decided for the city, that it would install a plant for the purpose of lighting the streets of the city, there being no intention of putting in a plant large enough to furnish current for private consumers. This action on the part of the city of course put an end to the effort of Whiteman to go ahead with his venture into the same field.

The winter of 1881-1882 was spent in an investigation by the city council

of the electric light plants which had been established in various cities in Ohio and adjoining states. The city council seemed to be bent on really investigating the matter from an impartial standpoint, the *Gazette* stating in February, 1882, that the "junketing" of the council had cost the city one hundred and fifty-seven dollars up to that time. Experts in electric lighting were brought to the city and open meetings were held to discuss the matter. The final result of the agitation was the ordering of an election for Monday, May 15, 1882, at which time the voters were to say whether they were willing for the city to issue twelve thousand dollars worth of bonds for the installation of a municipal electric light plant.

The local newspapers had articles on the question for some weeks before the election, the *Gazette* uniformly opposing the plan, while the *Democrat-News* as consistently favored it. The result of the election showed that the people wanted to let the city go ahead and try its hand in establishing a plant, the final vote standing 647 in favor and 522 against the proposal, a majority of 125. The city council on June 12, 1882, following this affirmative vote, authorized the issuance of twelve thousand dollars' worth of bonds to cover the cost of the installation of an electric-light plant. The plant was located on Little street, between Main and Market streets, opposite the workhouse.

The city did not meet with much success in its electric-light venture, and when a purchaser appeared in the person of John P. Martin it was ready to dispose of the plant and retire. It was Martin who was largely instrumental in getting the first waterworks plant in the city, the city entering into a contract with him on July 19, 1886, whereby he was going to install a waterworks system in the city. He paid the city only a nominal sum for the electric-light plant, but the city never realized anything on the sale.

The history of commercial electric lighting in the city is curiously intermingled with the local gas situation. There were those connected with the old artificial-gas plant who did not want an electric-light plant installed for the reason that it would break into their monopoly of the lighting of the city. Several ineffectual efforts were made to secure franchises in order to install an electric-light plant, but every move of this kind was thwarted by the gas people for several years. The gas people controlled the city council, a control which not only kept the city from extending its plant so that it would supply private consumers, but also kept private parties from entering the field. However, in the summer of 1888, Charles L. Jobe and H. C. Hardy decided that they would put in a small electric-light plant for their own use, and to this end organized a voluntary association, or rather, entered into a friendly agreement, and began work under the name of Jobe, Hardy & Company. Before they had gone very far with their plans, three other business men of the town asked to be allowed to join in the installation of a plant, the five men to share equally

in the installation of the plant. These other three men were R. R. Knowles, R. I. Stewart and H. E. Schmidt. The firm bought an abandoned machine shop on Collier street and expended about twenty-five thousand dollars in equipping the plant. While it was the original plan to produce only enough current for the five interested promoters, a small additional outlay enabled the company to produce considerably more power than the five men could use and they had no difficulty in obtaining consumers to use all the surplus current they had. Hardy became the general manager of the plant. Wilber Hill, a practical electrician, was brought to the city to take charge of the business, and has been connected with the electric-light plant of the city from that year down to the present time. The venture did not succeed as well as its promoters had expected and in the following year there was an effort on the part of some of the men to sell their interests, the first to sell out being C. L. Jobe and H. C. Hardy, the purchaser being Robert Davidson, who was really an agent for the local gas company. It was not long before the other men had disposed of their interests to their same company, and thus came to an end the first private electric-light company in Xenia.

The subsequent history of the electric situation in Xenia is somewhat involved. It has been mentioned that Martin bought the city's plant, but he was unable to do anything with it, much less pay the city anything for it. The city's plant was eventually abandoned and P. H. Flynn, the shoe manufacturer, put in a private plant. It was this latter plant which was still in operation when the Dayton Power and Light Company secured a franchise from the city and began furnishing service. The Flynn plant is still maintained, but is used only in a case of emergency. The city is lighted by current furnished by the Dayton Power and Light Company, one hundred and forty-seven arc lights being provided for street lighting.

#### THE TELEPHONE.

The man who introduced the first telephone into Xenia is still living in the person of Capt. L. H. Whiteman, and the historian is indebted to him for the early history of the telephone in the city and county. In the latter part of the '70s, shortly after Bell had perfected the telephone, Captain Whiteman became interested in the business and within a short time had completed negotiations with a firm in Cincinnati to install a switchboard in Xenia and start business.

He rented the third story of the building now occupied by the Criterion Clothing Store on Detroit street and there, in 1879, established the first switchboard in Xenia. Within a short time he had more than two hundred subscribers who were willing to pay him four dollars a month for his service. The first man in the city to install a telephone, or "hello box," as the news-

papers liked to call it, was Samuel Newton, the second subscriber being John Little. The business grew so rapidly that Captain Whiteman took in Little as a silent partner and in 1882 organized the Buckeye Telephone Company. Captain Whiteman first operated under the name of the Xenia Telephone Exchange and under this name entered into a contract on June 6, 1881, for the installation of the first telephone in the court house.

The Buckeye Telephone Company was a consolidation of the Xenia plant of Captain Whiteman and the Middleton plant of C. H. Bundy. This company secured a contract with the county commissioners for the installation of three telephone "boxes" in the court house on December 4, 1882. The next step in the history of the telephone business in Xenia was made in 1885, when the Buckeye Company was merged into a new company known as the Miami Telephone Company. This new company secured a franchise from the city of Xenia on February 13, 1885, and continued in business under this name until it was absorbed by the Central Union Telephone Company, of Chicago, in 1905. Upon the reorganization in 1885, John Little became president and Captain Whiteman became local manager, a position he retained for several years.

#### OTHER TELEPHONE COMPANIES OF XENIA.

The Miami Telephone Company had the local field to itself until 1898, when the Xenia Telephone Company came into existence. The city records show that this company secured a franchise from the city on December 3, 1898. The Ohio Telephone and Telegraph Company entered the local field with a franchise dated March 29, 1901, being closely followed by the Citizens Telephone Company. The latter company was granted a franchise by the city council on May 30, 1902. The Central Union Telephone Company of Chicago (usually referred to as the Bell system) came into the city following a franchise granted on April 26, 1905. This new company absorbed the old Miami Telephone Company.

#### WATERWORKS.

The beginning of the present system of water supply for Xenia may be said to be definitely marked by a contract which the city entered into with John P. Martin on July 16, 1886. Martin was a pump manufacturer, and his famous "Red Jacket" iron pump of the '80s was widely known throughout the country. He came here from Cincinnati. Martin spent the summer of 1886 in prospecting for water, but he had no money to go ahead with his plan, and the spring of 1887 found him ready to turn his contract, or franchise, over to Goodhue & Birnie, of Springfield, Massachusetts. This company immediately began preparation to install a waterworks plant and the spring and summer of 1887 saw the work in active progress under the direction of George F. Cooper, who

came to the city from Springfield, Massachusetts, to superintend its construction.

The company chose a location for the plant about a mile and a half north of Xenia, near Oldtown run, where a large number of springs flowed into the run. Tests made showed that the water was clear, cold and pure, and apparently of sufficient volume to furnish an ample supply. A dam was constructed which made a reservoir for the impounding of the water from the springs. A pumping station was erected and at the same time a reservoir, locally known as a standpipe, was erected at the extreme east end of Market street. This standpipe, 115 feet in height and 20 feet in diameter, has a capacity of 275,000 gallons. When the plant was installed in 1887 it was the only one in the state of Ohio which had a pipe of less than six inches, a four-inch pipe such as used in Xenia, being considered by experts at that time as inadequate for fire protection. The plant put into operation in 1887 proved sufficient for all the needs of the city up to 1895, but the severe drought of that year convinced the company that an additional supply of water would have to be provided. Several places were considered before it was finally decided to install a second pumping station on the Cincinnati pike, adjoining the city on the south. Here the second plant was erected in 1895, the water being derived from eighteen wells. Thus the city, with two separate plants, located on two sides of the city, is peculiarly well situated with regard to its water supply. The company also owns a couple of acres of land near the Oldtown mill which may be used at some future time for water supply.

The company in 1918 has twenty-three lines of pipe within the limits of the city, their lines reaching to all parts of the city. There are 203 fire hydrants, 500 feet apart, thus insuring the city ample fire protection, no fire ever having overtaxed the available supply of water. The water mains show a pressure varying from 60 to 100 pounds, according to location. The average amount of water pumped every twenty-four hours is 850,000 gallons, or 102 gallons daily for each person living in the city. There are 2,110 water consumers, while 81 per cent. of the stores use the water of the company. Until within the past few years meters have been used only where large quantities of water are consumed, but the policy of the company now is to install meters throughout the city as fast as possible, and there are now 475 meters in use. The city has installed five public watering troughs, while the Barber family gave to the city the mountain which stands on East Main street, opposite the court house.

The connection of John P. Martin and the firm of Goodhue & Birnie with the local plant has already been mentioned. The latter firm owned the plant about fifteen years and then disposed of it to the firm of Jones & Phillips, of Scranton, Pennsylvania. This company in turn sold the plant in 1904 to

Frank M. Green, of Washington, D. C., who was acting for the Shamokin interests. In the fore part of 1907 the control of the company passed into the hands of local people, several of whom had been stockholders in the company for several years. Practically all of the stock of the company is now owned by local investors, fifty-seven of the sixty-one stockholders residing in Xenia.

The present company was granted a perpetual franchise by the city on February 15, 1907, and the rates then established were in use until February 15, 1917, when a new schedule of rates was established by the company. These rates were fixed according to the estimate of the value of the property of the company, the engineering firm of Chester & Fleming, of Pittsburgh, fixing the value of the plant at \$338,770. At the present time the rates as fixed in 1917 are being reviewed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and their report is expected some time in 1918. The city pays the water company \$32 per year for each of the 203 fire hydrants now installed, or a total of \$6,496 a year. According to the schedule adopted in February, 1917, the city is to pay \$40 for each additional hydrant which may be installed in the future. This is a fixed rate.

The officers of the Xenia Water Company in 1918 are the following: George Little, president; C. E. Arbogust, vice-president; George F. Cooper, secretary, treasurer and general manager. The directors include the three officers and M. L. Wolf and C. L. Jobe. Mr. Cooper has been the general manager of the local plant since it was installed in 1887, and is now entering into the thirty-first year of his service with the company. It is probable that few public-service corporations in the state have had one man in charge for such a long period of years. The offices of the company are located on East Market street.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The history of Xenia's fire department falls into five periods: First, the period when the town had none at all; second, the period when there was only a bucket brigade, this lasting until 1837 or 1838; third, the period of the famous hand-pump days, when the water was all pumped by hand power; fourth, the period of the "steamers," engines which threw water as it had never before been thrown in the town; and fifth, the period since the installation of the present system of waterworks in 1887.

There is little known of the fire department prior to 1887. Just fifty years before that time—1837—the Legislature passed an act allowing the town of Xenia to borrow five thousand dollars to purchase fire-fighting apparatus and build an engine house. This house stood on the northwest corner of the public square, the town having a lease of a strip eighty feet wide across the north side of the square. This was removed in the '50s and the fire house was then located on Greene street, and there it remained for many years. Subsequently





MAIN STREET, XENIA.



GENERAL VIEW OF XENIA.



there was provision made for two fire-engine houses, or fire stations, one on East Main street where it is now located, the other being at the corner of Cincinnati avenue and Second street.

The present fire station on East Main street was completed in June, 1914, at a cost of \$12,500. The other station, known as No. 1, is an old brick structure, formerly used as a cooper shop, built before the Civil War. It was donated to the city for use as a fire station by one Maynor. At station No. 1 is a ladder truck and one hose wagon. At the other station is a hose wagon and a combination hose and chemical wagon. There are four horses at No. 2 and two horses at No. 1.

Fire Chief Buckles has been connected with the department for about thirty-four years, while until the spring of 1918 there were others on the force with about the same number of years of service to their credit. Aaron Turner has been at station No. 2 for twenty-nine years. Charles Dill and John Price, both of station No. 1, who had served thirty-four and forty-six years, respectively, were to be displaced in the spring of 1918. These men had given good and faithful service during all of these years, but it was felt that younger men were needed in the department. Charles MaHana has been with the department since December 15, 1916. William Miller is employed as a driver. City Manager Riddle contemplated making several changes in the personnel of the fire department in the spring of 1918, but they had not taken place at the time this volume went to press. The members of the fire department had been designated by the city ordinance of December 8, 1905, the same ordinance setting forth their salaries. This ordinance, however, was being subjected to some very radical changes by City Manager Riddle. All the members of the department will be appointed by the city manager from the civil-service list of applicants.

#### SOME LARGE FIRES IN XENIA.

Xenia has had its full share of destructive fires. The first fire of any consequence occurred on the night of August 3, 1845, the Puterbaugh fire on East Main street. Two young men, James Kinney and William Steele, were murdered in the building and the murderer evidently set fire to the building to destroy the evidences of his crime.

The Monroe fire of January 26, 1883, was attended with considerable loss of property. It was this fire which resulted in the loss of all the records of the Masonic fraternity. The Eavey wholesale house burned on February 3, 1908, entailing a loss of \$100,000, the heaviest fire loss the county has ever suffered. Two volunteer firemen lost their lives, Martin Ullery and Joseph P. Fletcher. The fire of January 18, 1909, completely destroyed the paper mill, the loss being about \$50,000. The next large fire occurred on the west side of Detroit street opposite the court house on December 9, 1914. This

fire, referred to as the Hutchinson & Gibney fire, resulted in a loss of about \$80,000. The last fire with a heavy loss occurred on the night of January 24, 1918, when one of the warehouses of the Hooven & Allison Company was completely destroyed with a loss of about \$50,000. There were thirty-five fires in 1916 and forty-nine in 1917.

#### SEWERAGE SYSTEM AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANT.

The present sewerage system dates from the ordinance of June 25, 1900, when a board of commissioners of sewers was appointed by the mayor with a tenure of five years. No compensation was to be allowed the members of the commission. During the past eighteen years the city has been adding sewers year by year until now the city is fairly well provided with storm and sanitary sewers. The old sewage-disposal plant was on the city farm of thirty-three acres located about two miles west of the city, but the new plant, completed during the spring of 1918, is located three miles northwest of the city.

There are what are known as four main trunk line sanitary sewers, as follows: Main sewer, from the shoe factory to the outlet; branch No. 1, from King street to Main; branch No. 2, from the corporation line to Main street at the shoe factory and from the Home road to the shoe factory; branch No. 3, from Church street to the shoe factory; the total length of these main sewers is 3.75 miles. There are twenty-eight laterals running off from these four main sewers, the total length of the laterals being 11.88 miles, making the total of the sanitary sewers of the city 15.63 miles. There are in addition 5.22 miles of storm sewers. During 1917 there was only one line of sanitary sewer constructed, this being done under the supervision of the city engineer for the trustees of the West End Mission church. The sewer was laid on Orange street, from Bellbrook avenue to the Second street branch, a distance of 525 feet. The total cost of this sewer was \$494.96. The repairs on the sewers during 1917, and including the cleaning out of the old sewage-disposal plant, amounted to \$527.76.

In the summer of 1915 a contract was entered into by the city for the construction of a modern sewage-disposal plant. The city purchased land about three miles northwest of the city as a site for the new plant, and issued bonds in the amount of \$68,000 to cover the cost of construction. As a matter of fact, the city will have a plant which could not be duplicated for at least \$100,000, it being a well-known fact that the original contractor stood to lose between thirty-five and forty thousand dollars on his contract. It is even stated that this was the cause of the death of the contractor. Subsequently, following his death, the contract was assumed by the Bailey Construction Company, of Dayton. The W. J. Sherman Company, of Toledo, designed the

plant and has general charge of its construction. The plant, which will accommodate a city of fifty thousand, was turned over to the city during the spring of 1918.

#### STREET CLEANING.

The cleaning of the streets of the city has heretofore been let by contract to the lowest bidder, the work for the past two years having been done by Roy Jenks for \$218 per month. The last contract was let in January, 1915, at which time the city had only 5.8 miles of paved streets. Since that time there has been an additional 2.6 miles of paving completed, the additional mileage being taken care of by day labor. The workhouse prisoners have been used to do part of this work. In 1916 the cleaning of the streets cost the city \$3,050.93, the cost in 1917 having been \$3,168.75. In 1916 the city cleaned 140,569 square yards, whereas in 1918 there will be a total of 174,586 square yards to be cleaned. The contract for the street cleaning for 1918 had not been concluded at the time this was written, but it is planned to adopt a different system, and use the street sweepings on the city's farm of thirty-three acres west of the city. There was inaugurated a few years ago what is known as a clean-up campaign, which is held in May of each year. This was started by the city board of health, but during the past two years the actual removal of the debris has been in charge of the engineering department of the city. Teams and men are hired and the city laid out into districts and systematically covered. In 1917 1,235 loads were removed at a cost of \$331, an average cost of 26 cents per load.

#### STREET SPRINKLING.

The street sprinkling in the business district has been let by contract to the lowest bidder, the work in 1917 having been done by Alexander Morgan at \$62.90 per month. A total of 4,300 lineal feet of streets was sprinkled at a cost of 7.3 cents per lineal foot. The entire cost, less two per cent. and the intersections, was paid for by the property owners affected. The total cost of the sprinkling for 1917 was \$627.97, divided as follows: Labor and materials, \$440.30; water rent, \$109.94; legal advertising, \$77.74.

#### STREET REPAIR WORK.

Owing to the fact that much of the repair work done on the streets in 1917 was performed by city prisoners, it is not possible to give the cost data of the work. Most of the repairs were done on the gravel streets. Exact data on the paved street repair work has been kept, as follows: Brick, \$77; asphalt, \$156.85. The total cost of the work on gravel streets for the year 1917 was \$1,067.48, making the total cost of all street repair work the sum of \$1,301.33.

## STREET PAVING.

The following tables exhibit the extent of the street paving in the city of Xenia, the first being the brick pavement:

Street.	From.	To.	Feet length.	Area.
Detroit .....	North Corp. ....	South Corp. ....	8,520	44,212
Main .....	P. C. C. & St. L. Ry.....	Columbus street .....	3,780	25,306
Market .....	P. C. C. & St. L. Ry.....	Columbus street .....	3,777	26,695
Green .....	Main Street .....	Market street .....	336	985
Whiteman .....	Market street .....	Second street .....	676	1,295
	Car track of East Main street.....			3,850
Total .....			17,089	102,343

The asphalt pavement is not so extensive as the brick as may be seen by the following table:

Street.	From.	To.	Feet length.	Area.
Second .....	Shawnee bridge .....	Columbus street .....	4,026	17,666
Third .....	Cincinnati avenue .....	Columbus street .....	3,320	8,960
King .....	Third .....	Ankeny Mill road .....	4,120	.....
Church .....	Detroit .....	Mechanic street .....	1,700	15,450
Roger .....	Detroit .....	900 feet east.....	900	1,626
Cross .....	Church .....	Third .....	8,850	15,692
E. Main .....	Columbus .....	East Corp. ....	4,330	12,840
Total .....			27,254	72,243

During 1917 the city was engaged in paving several of the streets, a summary of which work is indicated in the following table, the three streets being paved with asphalt and the tracks of the traction line with brick:

Street.	Area Sq. Yds.	Cost Sq. Yds.	Total Cost.
E. Main .....	12,849	\$3.00	\$ 39,240.00
Traction Line .....	3,850	2.60	10,000.00
Cross .....	15,692	3.18	10,000.00
Roger .....	1,626	3.48	5,777.00
Total .....	34,017		\$104,993.70

East Main was paved from Columbus street to the east corporation line; Cross street from Church to Third street; Roger from Detroit to a point nine hundred feet east. The average cost of the paving was three dollars and eight cents per square yard. Thus the city began the year 1918 with a total of eight and four-tenths miles of paved streets; three and twenty-four hundredths miles of brick and five and sixteen-hundredths miles of asphalt. The total paved area within the city is one hundred seventy-four thousand five hundred and eighty-six square yards. The total street mileage of the city is twenty two and thirty-two hundredths miles; alley mileage twelve and twelve-hundredths miles; practically the entire city is

covered with sidewalks, although the last report of the city engineer does not give the total mileage of the sidewalks. No sidewalks were laid by the city during 1918 except those made necessary during the paving work, and which were paid for out of the paving funds and charged to street paving. Sidewalks were ordered on the following streets, but not constructed because the property would not stand the assessment: Branch street from Galloway to West on the south side; Columbus street from Church to Fair on both sides; Leach street from Church to Third on the west side.

#### BRIDGES AND VIADUCTS.

The city has one water course running through it. The same overflowed on May 14, 1886, and on the next morning the bodies of twenty-three drowned persons were laid out in the mayor's office. Three other bodies were later found which had been washed out of the city, bringing the total deaths by drowning to twenty-six. The stream, Shawnee Run, an innocent looking rivulet, is spanned by thirteen bridges within the city limits ranging from thirty to forty feet. The viaduct across the Pennsylvania tracks on Monroe street, a steel structure, is 417.7 feet in length, the main span being one hundred and twenty-four feet long. This span was renewed in 1916, and the floor of the entire viaduct laid with wood block.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The police department under the present form of government is under the direct control of the city manager, who appoints the chief and all the patrolmen. The present chief is James H. Canaday. The patrolmen are Edward Wilkins, M. E. Graham, Charles Sims and Joseph Day. Sims, a colored man, is night policeman. The chief receives a monthly salary of ninety dollars, while the patrolmen receive seventy-five dollars per month. All cases coming under the jurisdiction of the city are now tried before the police judge, neither the mayor nor the city manager having any judicial functions. The city jail is used to hold prisoners pending trial, if they are not out on bond, and if subsequent trial results in conviction, they are placed in the workhouse to serve out their sentence. The present police judge is E. Dawson Smith, who receives an annual salary of four hundred dollars.

#### WORKHOUSE.

The workhouse in Xenia is owned jointly by the city and county. It was erected in 1882-83 at a cost of eight thousand dollars, the city and county sharing equally in the expense of its construction. It has since been maintained by the two, although since its beginning thirty-six years ago,

arrangements have been made with nine counties whereby they are allowed to place certain of their prisoners in the workhouse and pay the city of Xenia and county of Greene a fixed rate for their maintenance. These counties are Shelby, Miami, Clarke, Ross, Fayette, Clinton, Warren, Champaign and Logan.

This institution was opened on November 12, 1883, for the reception of prisoners, the first superintendent being Maj. George A. Barnes. The succession of superintendents of the institution has been as follows, the dates given being the date on which the official took his office: Maj. George A. Barnes, November 12, 1883; Norman S. Tiffany, April 4, 1886; John Eyer, August 13, 1887; Elmer Todd, February 15, 1888; John Brewer, July 1, 1892; Moses R. Brannum, October 1, 1897; Joshua Yeo, February 16, 1897; Rankin Grieves, November 1, 1900; James B. Marshall, November 1, 1901; David E. Crow, January 15, 1902-January 2, 1918. David E. Crow was the superintendent until the present form of city government was established on January 2, 1918, since when the position of superintendent has been held by the city manager, Crow being retained in the capacity of steward at a salary of one hundred and twenty-five dollars per month.

#### CEMETERIES.

The history of the several burying grounds of Xenia shows that there have been at least five in the city during its long career of more than a century. Four of these cemeteries have been abandoned from time to time, and for about seventy years Woodland Cemetery has been the chief one of the city. Usually when a town is laid out its first citizens do not take into consideration the future expansion of the place. Such was the case in Xenia, and this has been responsible for the abandonment of the cemeteries established prior to 1847. It was in this year that the present Woodland Cemetery was laid out, the citizens by that time realizing that it would be necessary to provide more ample grounds than could be obtained adjoining any of the cemeteries then in use.

Prior to 1847 there had been four separate cemeteries started, each being the property of one of the churches: Methodist, on Water street, which was sold in pursuance of an order of the court; Associate, at the corner of West and Market streets; Associate Reformed, also known as the Gowdy cemetery, Water street; German Reformed, Church street. These church cemeteries were not used after the establishment of Woodland in 1849 and were one by one abandoned, and the bodies exhumed and inhumed in Woodland. The Associate cemetery ground reverted to the heirs of Maj. James Galloway, who sold it to the city for school purposes. Here was built the first ward school building in 1868, and later the present McKinley



building. From the newspaper accounts in the '40s it is evident that the cholera raging during that decade was responsible for the agitation which finally led to the abandonment of the cemeteries in the city and the subsequent establishment of Woodland outside the city limits.

There is nothing particularly interesting in connection with the history of a cemetery, but there have been preserved a few incidents in connection with the Woodland cemetery which might be mentioned in this connection. The first prominent undertaker in Xenia was David Medsker and for at least thirty years he buried more people in Xenia than any other man. He came to Xenia on November 6, 1829, and died in the city on August 22, 1879. He became one of the directors of Woodland when it was started in 1847. In after years Medsker related some of his experiences in his profession, some of which may be interesting to the present generation. He first began lining coffins (the word casket was not then in use) about 1835, using white paper. Later he used muslin to line coffins. His first lined coffin was for Philip Davis, who was buried in 1835. It seems that when Medsker first came to Xenia, and for some time afterward, there were what were called professional mourners—a group of curious parasites who preyed on the sympathies of the relatives and friends of the deceased. In fact, so Medsker related in after years, two groups of these hired mourners had a contest in Xenia at one time, each group seeing which could put on the best exhibition of professional mourning. As soon as a person died a group of these parasites flocked to the house of the deceased and began their lamentations, sometimes by invitation of the relatives, sometimes without any invitation. Medsker continued in business up into the '70s, and stated that he had buried over seven thousand people in the county, the great majority of them being in Xenia or the immediate vicinity. David B. Cline was the first sexton of Woodland. He came from Virginia to Greene county in 1827 and located in Xenia in 1834. When Woodland cemetery was being surveyed in 1847 Cline assisted the surveyor and **thus began his connection** with the cemetery. He became the first sexton, dug the first grave and remained in charge until the Civil War. He remained at his post during the terrible cholera epidemic of 1848, when, during the months of July and August of that year, he buried eighty-five victims of the dread disease.

A word may be added here about the scourge of that year. The first person to die in Xenia was a stranger who died at the railroad station in June. He is supposed to have brought the disease to the town. The first citizen of Xenia to die with the disease was Hillory Neil. It was necessary, of course, to inhume the body at once and the body actually reached the cemetery before Cline had the grave ready to receive it. According to the story of this burial of Neil, one of the men in charge of the body remarked

to Cline: "Can't you keep a few graves dug ahead, and not wait until a man dies, and you get an order before you begin the work, and thus keep us waiting?" "Certainly," said Cline, "if you will let me take the measure of people before they die, and if you think it is a good idea. And I will just take your measure now while you are here, and have the grave ready for you." The man in charge of the body had no more to say.

The day following the death of Neil his wife succumbed to the disease. The deaths gradually increased until people were dying at the rate of four and five each day. The citizens were naturally panic stricken and many of them left town. A young blacksmith came to Cline one afternoon, ordered a lot for his wife's sister who had just died; the grave was immediately dug and the woman buried that afternoon. The man was in good health, but overnight he was stricken and he was buried in the forenoon of the following day. Relatives of persons stricken with the disease even ordered graves dug before the death occurred. Cline filled the position of sexton until the '60s, when he was replaced by James R. Hedges. The successors of Hedges have served in the following order: Andrew Rader, W. L. Wright, J. H. Douthett, Hunter Bull, Samuel Bull and Samuel H. Maynor, the present incumbent. The Bull brothers both died while serving.

The first regulations for the management of the cemetery were issued in December, 1847, the president of the board of trustees at that time being E. F. Drake, with J. A. Coburn as secretary. The presidents of the board have served in the following order: E. F. Drake, Alfred Trader, Daniel Martin, Brinton Baker, Horace L. Smith and Charles F. Howard. Mr. Howard has been serving as president since 1898. The secretaries have been as follow: J. A. Coburn, John B. Allen, Benoni Nesbitt, John C. Carey and Clinton F. Logan. The present officers of the Woodland Cemetery Association are as follow: Charles F. Howard, president; Horace L. Smith, vice-president; C. F. Logan, secretary; M. L. Wolf, treasurer. The directors include the four officers and Lester Arnold, H. H. Eavey, J. A. Piper, S. B. LeSourd and M. A. Broadstone.

The association bought twenty acres in 1847, being authorized to form the association and purchase land for burial purposes in accordance with an act of the General Assembly, dated February 25, 1845. Twenty additional acres were purchased in 1877, following the legislative act of March 20, 1877. The first burial in the new cemetery was made by John Shearer, the father of Judge Charles C. Shearer, in 1849, the first person interred being a daughter of William Hollingshead. The total number of burials up to March 18, 1918, was eight thousand two hundred and forty-two. The year 1917 saw one hundred and sixty-three burials in the cemetery, while 1918 witnessed thirty-six up to March 18.

During 1913-14 the cemetery trustees erected a beautiful mortuary chapel of stone in the cemetery at a cost of about seventeen thousand dollars. The chapel proper has a seating capacity of two hundred, while the receiving vault beneath has a capacity of twenty-four bodies. The chapel is one of the finest of its kind in the entire state. The stone columns at the entrance of the long drive to the cemetery formerly adorned the front of the old court house, and when that old structure was razed in 1900 they were given to the cemetery trustees by the county commissioners. The galvanized iron balls on top of the columns were an afterthought of the trustees.

There are fewer than half a dozen colored persons buried in Woodland, the colored people having had a cemetery of their own since 1870. There is a section of the cemetery set aside for soldiers of the Civil War and many of them find a resting place there. The cemetery is always kept in fine condition and the grounds are beautified with many different kinds of trees and ornamental shrubbery. The Catholic church has a well-kept cemetery on the upper Bellbrook pike about two miles west of town. It was established about 1850. The colored people maintain their separate burying ground on the upper Bellbrook pike adjoining the city on the west. It was opened about 1870 under the name of the Cherry Grove cemetery. Its present trustees are William Jenkins, L. P. Hilliard, James Harris, Charles Roundtree, Jerdon Robb, Mark Sanders, M. Summers, Payne Jamison and R. E. Holmes. The secretary of the board of trustees is Albert Landrum. There are still a few bodies in the old cemetery on East Water street, the old Associate Reformed cemetery, but it has not been used since Woodland was opened.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF CITY.

It seems certain that the first building erected by the city was a market house, and it appears to have been erected on the court house square in 1814. It is certain that there was such a structure located there in 1824, proof of which is furnished by the following record from the county commissioners' minutes, dated June 8, 1824:

From an order made by the Commissioners on the 6th day of June, 1821, granting leave to the Citizens of Xenia to remove the old Market House and erect a new one on the Publick Ground, after obtaining leave of the Associate Judges of Common Pleas. The Citizens not having obtained leave of said judges, but the Common Council of the Town of Xenia having obtained leave of the said Judges, aforesaid, to erect a Market House on the Public Ground, therefore it is now ordered that the Common Council of the Town of Xenia have liberty to erect a Market House on the north end of the (south) Public Ground in such a manner that the west end of the said Market House will range with the west end of the Court House, and that the Pillars thereof be twelve feet from Third Street. They also allow Twelve feet of Ground on the South side of the Pillars for the use of said house.

The building erected shortly after this order of 1824 was in use for several years, but by the '50s it seemed to have been abandoned as a public market house. As early as 1851 the commissioners' records show that they were trying to get the building moved from the square, but for some reason the city failed to do so. On March 12, 1859, a preemptory order of the commissioners was sent to the city council asking that the building be removed, and it appears that it was shortly afterwards demolished and was never re-established. The order of that date follows:

Whereas, the market house belonging to the incorporated village of Xenia was built and is still standing on the ground donated to the county as a public square. And whereas, no markets have been opened or held in said market house for some months past and, from appearance, it seems to have been converted into a place for keeping vehicles of various kinds, contrary to the original design, Therefore—

Resolved, that the Common Council of said Incorporate Village be and is hereby most respectfully requested to remove said market house with all its appurtenances from the public square.

Ordered that the County Auditor furnish the Mayor of said incorporate Village with a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions.

#### FIRE HOUSES.

The first fire house in the city was erected in 1831, following an agreement between the county commissioners and the town, whereby the former agreed to allow it to be constructed on the public square. The official record concerning this so-called engine-house is as follows, dated March 9, 1831:

On the application of the Common Council of the Town of Xenia, by John Gowdy, their recorder, for the privilege of erecting a small frame house on the Public Ground in Xenia for the purpose of keeping the Fire Engine, belonging to said Town, in; it was therefore agreed by the Commissioners that said privilege be granted, as follows: To commence on Detroit, four feet north of the house built by James Collier; thence with said Street north fourteen feet, and back thirty feet; which privilege is granted during the pleasure of the Commissioners, and said Council have power to move said House whenever they think proper.

WM. BUCKLES.

From this location on the public square the next fire house was located on Greene street, next to the alley, where it was stationed for several years. The city, however, rented its quarters here. Another fire house was located on Whiteman street, between Main and Second streets, this being sold when the present new station was ready for occupancy on East Main street. Of the two present fire stations the one on East Main was completed in 1914, the other one at the corner of West Second and Cincinnati avenue was a gift to the city.

#### CITY BUILDING.

The present city building at the northeast corner of Detroit and Market streets was erected in 1867, and was completely overhauled in 1880. At that time the upper part was converted into a public hall and arranged for

dramatic performances. The building for this reason is usually referred to as the opera house. It houses all the city officials, and also contains the city jail.

#### THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF XENIA.

It has been more than one hundred years ago since the first effort was made to establish a public library in Xenia. The little village could hardly have numbered more than five hundred souls at the time, but this did not daunt the forefathers. They wanted a library and they got it. The winter of 1815-16 witnessed an agitation for a library of some kind, not exactly a free library as is understood to-day, but some kind of a reading room. The agitation finally resulted in the drawing up of a subscription paper setting forth the purpose of the movement, the rules under which the proposed library was going to operate, and the general management of the institution when it got started. The first meeting of the subscribers to the library was to be held on the fourth Saturday of March, 1816, at which time an organization was to be effected. The subscription paper, together with the list of signers, follows:

To provide the means of diffusing knowledge and literature is an object of the greatest importance to society, and claims the attention of every friend of humanity. For this purpose, we, the subscribers, have determined to establish a public library in the town of Xenia, which shall be open to all under the following regulations:

- 1st. Each subscriber shall pay to the librarian five dollars on each share annually.
- 2nd. The subscribers shall meet on the fourth Saturday of March, 1816, and on the same day annually forever and elect by ballot nine directors, who shall be a standing committee, five of whom shall form a quorum, to regulate the affairs of the library, with the following powers, to-wit: To appropriate the funds of the library for the benefit of the subscribers; to appoint a president and librarian from their own number, and to assign them their duties; to call a meeting of the subscribers on matters of importance at any time when they think necessary, and to enact by-laws for regulating the affairs and securing the interest of the library.
- 3rd. At each annual meeting a report of the proceedings of the committee, together with a list of the books purchased, shall be laid before the subscribers for their inspection.
- 4th. Two-thirds of the subscribers present at any annual meeting shall have power to alter or amend these regulations.
- 5th. Any person neglecting his annual subscription or any fine imposed upon him, when amounting to the sum of two dollars and fifty cents, shall forfeit his share to the use of the company, and if under that sum he shall not enjoy any of the privileges of a subscriber until such sum shall be paid.
- 6th. Any manager may be removed from office at any time by a two-thirds vote of the subscribers.
- 7th. Shares may be transferred on the books of the librarian, and each subscriber shall be entitled to draw books in proportion to the number of his shares.
- 8th. The library shall go into operation immediately after forty shares shall have been subscribed.

SUBSCRIBERS—James P. Espey, Josiah Grover, William T. Elkin, Philip Good, William Ellsberry, Samuel Pelham, Joshua Martin, Moses Collier, Stith Bonner, Thomas Hunter, John Gaff, John Haines, Thomas Gillespie, James Collier, John Smith, William Laughhead, William Alexander, George Junkin, Jesse Watson, Robert W. Stevenson, Anthony Cannon,

Samuel McBeth, Bratton & Beall, Jacob Haines, Francis Kendall, James Towler, Matthew Alexander, Josiah G. Talbott, Jacob Smith, Henry Morgan, James Lamme, James Galloway, Jr., Lewis Wright, W. A. Beatty, Alexander Armstrong, William Richards, Daniel Reece, James Ponce, William Currie, Robert D. Forsman, Thomas Embree.

Here are forty-one citizens who expressed a willingness to help establish a library in the town—one of the first in the state of Ohio. There are, unfortunately, no records extant showing just what was done by this library "company." But it is interesting to know that more than a century ago the town saw the wisdom of establishing a library, although it was not until the fall of 1899 that the first free public library was established in the city.

The history of the library situation in Xenia from 1816 down to 1878 is obscure. There is no question that the town had a library of some kind during most of this time, but it seems to have completely disappeared by the '70s. The history of the local library was prepared for a state publication in 1899 by Isadore F. King, who traced the growth of the library of Xenia only from 1878. There seems to be no question that there was no library of any kind at that date, nor does there appear to have been one for a number of years. The Young Men's Christian Association had a small library in its quarters, but it circulated only among its limited membership.

As is often the case in public-spirited matters, the women of Xenia should be credited with starting the present library in Xenia. In the winter of 1877-78 a group of eight young women organized what they called the "Tuesday Club," the members being Elizabeth Ewing, Jennie Morris, Anna McCracken, Clara Allen, Belle Gatch, Elousa F. King, Isadore F. King and Emma C. King. They prepared literary papers, discussed literature in a more or less dilettante sort of fashion, but found themselves seriously handicapped because there was no library. It was this need on their part which ultimately led to the beginning of the present library. The few books of the Young Men's Christian Association and another library, known as the Lyceum, were of little value, and besides were stowed away in an inaccessible place. This state of affairs was directly responsible for the energetic members of the Tuesday Club organizing on August 20, 1878, the Young Women's Library Association, their first officers being as follow: Anna McCracken, president; Emma C. King, vice-president; Jennie Morris, secretary; Belle Gatch, treasurer. But the young women had more enthusiasm than money, and while enthusiasm is a very necessary thing to have, yet it will not purchase books. They bethought themselves of the few books of the Young Men's Christian Association and made a proposition to John A. Shields, who had them in charge, that they be allowed the custody of the books for the nucleus of a library for the town. In order to go about

the matter in a business-like manner they submitted the following proposition in writing to the managers of the Young Men's Christian Association:

Recognizing the need of a public library in Xenia, the Young Women's Library Association has been organized. We have no room, no books, no money, but we believe we have energy and perseverance, and we hope to have success. Our object in coming to you is to ask the loan of your room, your furniture, your books, in consideration of which we pledge the following:

1. To keep the library open at least once a week.
2. To be responsible for the safe keeping of the furniture and books except in case of fire; to replace any books that may be lost, but not holding ourselves responsible for their wear while in use.
3. To add new books to the library as we shall be able, such books to be the property of the Young Women's Library Association.

It is needless to say that the managers of the Young Men's Christian Association very gladly accepted the proposition of the women. They immediately started out to get books donated to the library, and at the same time sold dollar tickets which entitled the holder to use the library free of cost for a period of one year. Eli Millen, the owner of the building in which the room was located, offered to let them have the room free of rent, and as long as the library remained in the building it paid no rent for the use of the room. Here was opened a public library on September 14, 1878, and this date may be taken as the beginning of the history of the present library of the city. At the close of the first year the association was able to report one hundred and thirty-seven members holding tickets entitling them to the use of the books.

And thus came into existence the present library. Some of the women who worked so faithfully to get it started are still living in the city, and it must be a source of gratification to them to know that they shared in the honor of establishing it. From 1878 to 1885 the library was open only on Wednesday afternoon and all day Saturday, the members taking turn acting as librarian. The fund for the purchase of books came solely from the sale of tickets and the few fines which were collected. By 1885, however, the members became so numerous that it was decided to keep the library open every afternoon except Sunday, and all day Saturday. Prior to this time the young women who had started it had incorporated themselves under the name of the Xenia Library Association, the original eight becoming the members of the association. This took place on November 8, 1881. In 1885 the association decided to make a strenuous effort to increase the value of the library by calling upon the citizens of the city for donations. Their efforts were rewarded with donations to the amount of \$227.50. The management now felt that they could afford to employ a librarian, and Clara Martin was employed in this capacity. She was soon followed by Ella Carruthers, who in turn gave way to Elizabeth O. Kyle. On May 1, 1888, the present librarian, Etta G.

McElwain, took charge of the library and has been connected with it as librarian continuously since that date.

The next change in the history of the library followed the legislative act of February 13, 1898, an act which empowered boards of education in cities of the fourth grade, second class, to levy a tax not to exceed one-half mill for the benefit and support of free public libraries. The management of the local library discussed the question of taking advantage of the law, and, finding that the Xenia board of education was willing to co-operate, they decided to relinquish in its favor. The women had struggled for twenty years to maintain the library and at times some of them felt that their efforts were not appreciated, but they subordinated any personal desire they may have had and voted unanimously to turn over the library to the city. The city provided the necessary tax levy and on September 1, 1899, the first free public library in Xenia was thrown open to the public.

While the year 1899 thus marks the beginning of a new epoch in the history of the library, there was to be another important change within the next three years. In the fall of 1902 the management was the recipient of an offer from Andrew Carnegie, offering to give twenty thousand dollars for the erection of a library building provided the city furnished a site and guaranteed two thousand dollars a year for its maintenance. The proposition was promptly accepted and a site was donated by Mrs. Louisa R. Lackey and Diana Roberts, the site comprising a tract of one hundred and fifty square feet. The board of education accepted the site and agreed to the proposition of Carnegie, a resolution of November 12, 1902, by the board of education providing for the levying of a tax of not less than one-half mill nor more than one mill for the support of the library. The city council went on record with a resolution on November 28, 1902, in which it approved the action of the board of education and formally thanked the donors of the site and Mr. Carnegie for his generous gift. Furthermore, the council pledged the credit of the city of Xenia toward the consummation of the agreement made between Carnegie and the board of education, and agreed on its part to assume the contract in case the board of education did not or was unable to fulfill its part of the contract.

And thus Xenia secured its present beautiful library building without the cost of a cent to the city, to the board of education, or to anyone else. The building cost \$20,000, the full amount originally donated by Carnegie, and then there was no money with which to furnish it. Again Carnegie was appealed to for assistance, and a second time he came to the assistance of the people of Xenia. This time he donated \$1,350, all of which was used in equipping the library with furniture. The corner stone of the library was laid on July 22, 1904, and it was completed and opened to the public on Tuesday, June 7, 1906.



Now follows an account of how the city lost the library, and how the county had to step in to save it from extinction. The cause for the inability of the board of education to continue its support of the library arose from the fact that the taxing system of the state was so changed as to make it impossible for the school board to raise the necessary money to support both the schools of the city and library. It was hoped that the city council would come to the rescue of the library, but it repudiated its agreement of 1902. To state the facts plainly, the city was not in a financial condition where it could spare the two thousand dollars annually that was required for the maintenance of the library. It was at this crisis in the history of the library that the board of governors appealed to the county commissioners for assistance, and that body agreed to furnish the necessary funds to keep the library going.

This unfortunate state of affairs arose in 1913, and while the matter was under discussion all the available funds of the library were used. Something had to be done—and done quick, or the library would have to be closed. It was at this juncture that several public-spirited friends of the library came to the front with donations of four hundred dollars, a sum sufficient to bridge over the period between the time that the board of education refused to contribute further until the county took over the library. The transfer took place on June 4, 1913, and at the same time the name of the library was changed from the Carnegie Library to the Greene County Library. The commissioners asked that the old board of governors continue in office and perform their duties as they had in the past. In fact, the only change in the library was that of name and the source of its maintenance. In 1917 the county tax for the support of the library amounted to \$2,765.34, the library deriving \$179.24 from fines, the sale of magazines and a few minor sources of revenue.

The management of the institution is vested in a board of governors composed of twenty women. They elect the librarian, select the books and magazines and attend to the general management of the library. The present officers are the following: Anna McCracken, president; Margaret Moorehead, vice-president; Mrs. Clara Shields, secretary. The board of governors is self-perpetuating, the members filling all vacancies. The first scientific cataloguing of the books was done in August and September, 1892, by Katherine L. Sharp, a library expert. There have been three bequests to the library which deserve special mention: The James E. Galloway collection of about two hundred and fifty volumes and a number of bound newspaper files; the J. P. Chew collection of bound newspapers for a long period of years; the Dr. Samuel C. Poland collection of coins. The latter collection is one of the finest in the state, numbering 1,076 coins and representing all the countries of the world. The three cases in which the coins are displayed bear the date of the gift to the library—September 5, 1910. The donors of one or more volumes number

probably a hundred, while a number of book publishers have donated books in the past.

The number of volumes in the library on March 25, 1918, was 17,234. During 1917 there were 780 volumes added, and about this same number is added annually. There are 53 magazines on file, the *New York Times*, the *New York Tribune*, and copies of the local Xenia papers. During the year closing September 30, 1917, there were 47,745 volumes issued to 4,010 readers for home reading. This was an increase of 13,930 volumes over the previous year, and an increase of 630 in the number of readers. The librarian and her assistant attempt to keep a check on the number of readers who visit the library, and during the past year they numbered 8,491, an increase of 2,353 over the preceding year. The library was open 304 days in the last year and handed out an average of 157 books each day it was open, 324 being the largest number handed out and 34 the smallest. The monthly circulation ranged from 5,077 to 3,013 volumes.

When the county took over the library in 1913 the scope of the library was changed so as to make it more nearly a county library. Arrangements were made to establish branch libraries over the county, and already ten separate communities have taken advantage of this arrangement to secure books: Yellow Springs, Cedarville, Alpha, Bellbrook, Jamestown, Bowersville, Spring Valley, Goes, Caesarscreek and the Bryson school. Books are sent on request to these stations in lots of fifty for periods of three months. They are kept by some responsible person, the local library, the school, or even in a store, as at Goes. The idea is to make the library of as much value to the people of the county as possible. During 1917, 1,529 volumes were sent to these various stations. The addition of this work made it necessary in the fall of 1913 to provide an assistant for Miss McElwain. This position has been held since October 1, 1913, by Mrs. Winifred H. Armstrong. The present librarian, Etta G. McElwain, has been serving in this capacity for thirty years, and it is not too much to say that she has done more than any other person to keep the institution on its feet. She has kept pace with the latest developments in library science and the result has been that there is no better managed library in the state. There has never been a more faithful and efficient servant of the public in Xenia than Miss McElwain, and the people of the city owe her a debt of gratitude for her long service with the library.

#### THE POSTOFFICE OF XENIA.

The postoffice history of Xenia is peculiarly mixed up with the political history of the city, county and nation. For one hundred and thirteen years postmasters have come and gone, and during this long period of more than a century one postmistress has appeared on the scene. To go into detail and tell



ST. BRIGID CHURCH, XENIA.



why one man was appointed to the office and not another would involve a discussion not only of local politics but even of national politics. There have been times in the history of Xenia when aspirants for the postoffice have gathered around the wires on election night and waited with bated breath to hear whether New York and Indiana were going Democratic or Republican. If the former, then some Democrat of the city heaved a sigh of relief, for it meant that he was going to get the postoffice, and, conversely, the Republican aspirant slowly and sadly wended his way homeward to wait for the next election four years later.

This was the situation from the beginning of the town until April 1, 1917. Up to that time, and especially since the '30s, the postmaster in Xenia was always of the political faith of the party in power. They were usually appointed because they had, or thought they had, contributed to the election of the successful candidate for the presidency. But all this was changed with the presidential order of April 1, 1917, an order which placed the postmasters of all first, second and third class offices under civil service. This means that in the future no postmaster can be removed except for cause; that all postmasters who were in office on April 1, 1917, are to retain their positions as long as they perform the duties of the office satisfactorily.

It would take a volume to tell of the successive campaigns waged by local aspirants for the postoffice in Xenia. Seventeen different persons have held the office, one incumbent, James Hoyle, serving on two different occasions. No doubt in the early days of the town there was not much of a fight over the office, for the reason that it was not very remunerative. For several years after the office was established in 1805 the incumbent was not able to make a living from the office, and it was not until near the time of the Civil War that the office reached a point where it was worth the trouble of making a fight for it. It is not certain who was the first postmaster to devote all of his time to the office, but from the best evidence it appears that James Hoyle, who was first appointed in 1853, was the first man to attempt to make a living from the office.

James Towler, a Methodist preacher, was the first postmaster of Xenia, and, according to the best authority, assumed the duties of the office on April 1, 1805. He had little to do, and his compensation was so meagre that he probably had no opposition to reappointment during the time that he held the office from 1805 to 1818. Year by year the business of the office has increased until the one man who once kept the office and also carried on his regular occupation at the same time has given way to thirty-four employees. The few dollars that Postmaster Towler annually took in a hundred years ago are now offset by such a sum as \$30,720.03, the amount collected in 1917.

For several years after the postoffice was established the town did not

have daily mail. It was on a star route running between Columbus and Cincinnati during part of the time, and at other times it was on a route running between Columbus and Dayton. At first it only received mail once each week; later the mails were increased to two per week, then to three, and some time before 1846 the town was getting daily service. The mail was brought in on the old stage coaches which made regular trips between Cincinnati and Columbus, or from Dayton to the capital. But with the coming of the Little Miami Railroad in the fall of 1846 the town began to receive two mails each day. As other railroads reached the town, more mails were received. In 1918 the local office receives twenty-seven mails daily and sends out twenty-six.

The location of the postoffice for the past hundred years is a matter which has been practically impossible to determine with any degree of accuracy. The memory of the average man is a very treacherous thing, and the local papers are painfully silent on such matters as the location of the postoffice. The historian has seen the advertisements of uncalled-for letters as far back as 1814, but in no case was there any indication where the postoffice was located. It is known that the office was located during the regime of Postmaster Towler in his log house on West Main street, his house standing on the site now occupied by the North building. It is not certain just when he opened the office, nor when he received his commission, the fact that the records at Washington were destroyed when the capitol and other buildings were destroyed by fire during the War of 1812 accounting for the inability of the historian to get the exact date of the beginning of the postoffice in Xenia. It is thought that it was about April 1, 1805, and this date is accepted as about the time he assumed the duties of the office.

Following the removal of the office from the log cabin of Towler, it has been more or less definitely located at ten different sites. At the time of the dedication of the present postoffice in 1915 Postmaster Orr assembled all the information he could gather concerning the history of the office from its beginning, and all the facts herein contained are taken from his speech at the dedicatory services on that occasion. Mr. Orr enumerates ten sites for the office since the time it left the cabin of Towler, to-wit: The present site of the residence of George L. White on West Market street; East Main street, next room west of Sanz's shoe store; South Detroit street, where H. E. Schmidt's grocery now stands (other authorities state that it was just north of the Schmidt grocery); East Main street, in the room in the Howard block now occupied by the drug store of D. D. Jones; corner of Greene and Main streets, where the Citizens National Bank is now located; Greene street, in room now occupied by L. S. Barnes; Greene street, in room adjoining the alley to the south; Greene street, in room of George White's store; corner of Greene and Market streets, in room occupied by the Ford agency; in present building since December 30, 1914.

To quote from Mr. Orr's interesting account of the office: "Let it be recorded that on the evening of the 30th day of December, 1914, at 6:30 o'clock, the windows of the government-leased quarters were closed for the last time in the building at the corner of Market and Greene streets, and half an hour later the mail and officials of this office were installed in this new building which the government had erected for the purpose—a building which should withstand the elements for a thousand years."

Many stories are told of the efforts of the Greene street merchants to keep the office on that street, the object, of course, being to attract the trade to their stores along the street. It is said that Millen, the owner of the building where the office was located for a number of years, allowed the government the room at a ridiculously low rental in order to keep the office on that street. The present beautiful postoffice building was erected on East Main street, at a cost of \$135,000, and dedicated on July 4, 1915, although the office had been opened in the new building since the 30th of the preceding December.

There are now thirty-four employees connected with the local office. The present postmaster, Harry E. Rice, took charge on February 13, 1916. The assistant postmaster is Walter E. Wike, who is the oldest employe in point of service. Mr. Wike went into the office as a clerk in 1873 during the administration of Mrs. Lowe, remaining three years. He was out of the office from 1876 to 1883 and in the latter year returned as clerk for a four-year period. He was then out again for a year, but returned in 1888 and has been there continuously since that year. The next oldest clerk in point of service is Anna M. Greenlease, who has been in the office since October 1, 1893, while Harry L. Clark, a city carrier, has been on duty in that capacity continuously since October 4, 1893.

City carrier service was inaugurated during the postmastership of M. M. Gaunce (1885-1889), the first three carriers being M. J. Dunn, John Hook and Martin V. Lucas. Dunn is the only one of the three now living. The present city carriers are Benjamin F. Eckerle, J. Howard Jones, Clarence W. Barnes, Harold B. Fetz, Harry L. Clark, George I. Gaines and Orlando Sprigg. The two substitute carriers are Joseph P. McCormick and Revelle Hurley.

Rural free delivery was established during the administration of J. M. Milburn (1898-1903), there being only one carrier, Charles Thompson, at first. He received only three hundred dollars a year for his services, a striking contrast to the one thousand two hundred dollars now received by the rural carriers. There are now ten regular rural-route carriers and four substitutes. The regular carriers are as follow, their names being given in the order of their route number: Edwin A. Redfern, Harry M. Weber, Andrew J. Love, David R. Brewer, Bert J. Winter, Harry E. Marshall, Levi F. Allen, Baldwin Allen, Albert Kendrick and Alphonso Lane. The substi-

tute carriers are Lester Lane, Emory Beall, William H. Jenkins and James H. Harner. Eight of the carriers use automobiles when the roads will permit. Their average route covers twenty-five miles, and they serve from one hundred to one hundred and sixty patrons each. The clerks in the office include the following: George E. Hamilton, Anna M. Greenlease, Warren E. Rodgers, Leigh A. Taylor, Cora C. Williams, Milton A. Smith and Ollie C. Custer. Mary H. Hopkins is a substitute clerk. Thomas F. Kiely is the special delivery messenger. The mail is hauled to and from the railroad stations by Fred Scurry.

The postal savings department was established on September 5, 1911, but this feature has never been very much patronized in Xenia. Experience has shown that the department is mostly used by foreigners and since Xenia has very few of these, there has been little use made of the department. The parcel post was established on July 25, 1913, and has proved immensely popular from the beginning. For the benefit of future generations it might be stated that three-cent postage was re-established on November 2, 1917, the country having employed two-cent postage for more than thirty years. The present war has added heavily to the duties of the postmaster. He acts as a recruiting agent, as a government detective, and in other ways acts as a direct intermediary between the government at Washington and the local community. All the sales of war saving stamps and thrift stamps for the county are accounted for by the postmaster of the county seat in each county. They were first offered for sale at the local office on December 3, 1917, the apportionment of the county's sales for the year 1918 being placed at five hundred fifty-eight thousand dollars. The amount of these stamps to be bought by the counties of the various states is prorated on the basis of population, Greene county being estimated to have a population of thirty-two thousand.

It is interesting to note that every postmaster since the days of Thomas G. Brown has been connected with local newspapers at some time or other a fact which may account for the fact that so many papers have arisen in the county seat since the Civil War. John H. Purdy was the editor of the *Xenia Free Press* in the '30s. Brown is the oldest of these postmasters now living, although he has not been a resident of the city for several years, now making his home in Coshocton. The only other postmasters living are Lewis H. Whiteman and John Francis Orr. The complete list of postmasters from 1805 down to the present time follows: James Towler, April 1, 1805; George Townsley, July 7, 1818; John H. McPherson, November 13, 1828; William T. Stark, May 14, 1829; John H. McPherson, June 9, 1841; John H. Purdy, September 5, 1842; William M. Stark, December 20, 1845; Daniel Lewis, May 2, 1849; James Hoyle, May 12, 1853; Will-



iam Lewis, April 8, 1861; James Hoyle, November 17, 1866; Manorah F. Lowe, April 10, 1867; Thomas G. Brown, March 3, 1879; M. M. Gaunce, December 5, 1885; Nelson A. Fulton, September 6, 1889; Lewis H. Whiteman, March 15, 1894; Joseph M. Milburn, May 24, 1898; John F. Orr, June 23, 1903; Harry E. Rice, February 13, 1916. The one woman who held the office, Manorah F. Lowe, was the widow of Col. John W. Lowe, the first field officer of Ohio to be killed in the Civil War. He was shot on the battlefield at Carnifax Ferry on September 18, 1861. It was in recognition of his service that President Johnson appointed his widow postmaster of Xenia in 1867, and she was later appointed by President Grant, serving in all twelve years.

#### XENIA BECOMES A CITY.

The city council of Xenia held its first meeting on March 3, 1834, and from that time until January 2, 1918, the city was governed by a mayor and council. A study of the minutes of the council during all these years reveals many interesting things, not all of which would make delectable reading. There are on record many things of which the city can not be proud, while on the other hand there is a great preponderance of things well done.

The musty old volumes tell of mayors who filled their pockets full of money derived from fines and then skipped out for parts unknown, but on the other hand it also tells of mayors who exercised the most scrupulous care in the performance of their duties. There have been good mayors, bad mayors, and some mediocre; thus it is in every city in the country. There have been good councilmen and bad councilmen; councilmen who looked after the interests of the people they were supposed to represent, and councilmen who have looked solely after their own interests. There has probably never been a single council in the city that has not had some of the best citizens of the city in it, but when they were in the minority their influence was practically negligible. However, with the beginning of 1918 the days of the old form of government are over, and there is little chance that it will ever return.

The first city officials in 1834 were the following: Cornelius Clark, mayor; L. P. Frazer, recorder; Alexander Conner, marshal; Jonathan Jones, clerk of the market house; Jonathan H. Wallace, David Douglass, Joseph Harbison, John Howard and John Charters, trustees. Cornelius Clark, the first mayor of the town, was a lawyer. Jones was not appointed market-house clerk until the second weekly meeting, March 10, 1834, but his salary of twenty dollars a year evidently did not appeal to him, since he soon

resigned and was appointed marshal to succeed Conner, who refused to give bond for the performance of his duties.

It is practically impossible in some years to tell who was the mayor, the records of the council meetings often not being signed by the mayor. And in order to add to the perplexity, the annual elections seldom speak of the mayor by name, the minutes of the first meeting in April simply stating that the mayor was present, but without naming him. The list of mayors from 1834 down to 1918 as near as it has been possible to make it is as follows: Cornelius Clark, 1834-1835; Aaron Harlan, 1835-1836; Daniel Martin, 1836-1838; Aaron Harlan, 1837-1838; Roswell F. Howard, 1838-1839; Nicholas Casper, 1839-1840; Roswell F. Howard, 1840-1841; the records from 1841 to 1853 are missing and it is therefore impossible to determine the mayors for this period, but when the records begin again in 1853 Joseph A. Sexton was mayor and he may have been for a number of years prior to that time; the records since 1853 indicate the succession without a break: Joseph A. Sexton, 1853-1856; R. Partington, 1856-1858; James Kyle, 1858-1864; H. B. Guthrie, 1864-1865; George W. Wright appears to have been mayor a short time in 1864 and 1865, but the record is not clear on this point; John Little, 1865, resigned; George W. Wright, appointed September 11, 1865, removed April 11, 1866; Lewis Wright, appointed April 11, 1866, and apparently was serving as mayor pro tem for a time; John Little, 1866-1867; Warren Anderson, 1867-1870; Joseph M. Keever, 1870-1876, left the city suddenly for Canada; Warren Anderson, 1876, appointed to fill out the unexpired term of Keever; George W. Neville, 1876-1880; Wilbur F. Trader, 1880-1882; Guthrie Marshall, 1882-1884; Wilbur F. Trader, 1884-1888; Charles F. Howard, 1888-1895, resigned in November; John A. North, 1895, appointed to fill unexpired term of Howard; C. W. Linkhart, 1896-1903; Wilbur F. Trader, 1903-1906; William F. Brennan, 1906-1910; William Dodds, 1910-January 2, 1918.

#### THE NEW CITY GOVERNMENT OF XENIA.

The year 1918 witnessed the beginning of a new era in the history of municipal government in Xenia. For more than a hundred years the city had been under the old regime, a system which might have worked if the proper kind of citizens had taken the interest in public affairs that they should. It is a matter of municipal history throughout the United States that no city government is any better than the citizens that have it in charge. If a set of corrupt politicians secure control of a city, it is nearly impossible to get rid of them, and as a result the city continues to suffer year after year.

Bi-partisan political machines have governed some cities of the country

for years, and it is because of their corrupt methods in administering municipal affairs that other methods of governing cities have been developed. Xenia has had its share of maladministration at the hands of politicians who had no other interest at heart than the filling of their own pockets or, occasionally, they might have suffered some of their friends to help in getting rid of the money of the taxpayers. It has been said that some of the valuable franchises of the city have been granted only after the lavish expenditure of money on the part of the interested company seeking the franchise.

When Galveston was nearly destroyed by a great tidal wave in 1900 it was universally admitted by the citizens of the stricken city that heroic measures would have to be taken in order to bring the city out of chaos. It was in this hour of tribulation that the beginning of the present city manager system of government was born. It is not too much to say that it was this destructive tidal wave of 1900 that is responsible for the introduction of a new system of municipal administration throughout the United States. Its wonderful success in Galveston led other cities to try the plan and now there are hundreds of cities in the country using some form of the plan first tried out in Galveston, later developed in Des Moines, Dayton and other cities. This new form of city government is variously known as the "Commission" form, the "City Manager" form or the "Home Rule" form of government.

The first definite step taken by the city toward the adoption of the city manager form of government was the election of a group of fifteen citizens who were to frame a charter for the city. At an election held on April 3, 1917, the following fifteen citizens were selected for this purpose: E. D. Smith, Austin M. Patterson, William S. Rogers, S. H. Deacon, Thomas Gilroy, W. A. Galloway, M. J. Hartley, R. E. Holmes, Jacob Kany, Frank McCurran, W. L. Miller, George H. Smith, Jordan Robb, C. S. Frazer and G. A. Willett. This group of citizens were known as the Charter Commission, and organized by selecting E. D. Smith as chairman, Austin M. Patterson as vice-chairman and William S. Rogers as secretary. It was the charter which this commission framed that was voted upon on August 30, 1917. They concluded their deliberations on July 9 and at once ordered the charter and a general statement of what it proposed printed in order that the citizens of the city might be able to see what kind of a government was proposed.

In the summer of 1917 the agitation for the adoption of this new form of city government for Xenia began to take form. The citizens of the city, irrespective of party, who were interested in good government were uniformly back of the movement to secure the new form of government. The

elements of the city who were opposed to good government used every method at their disposal to defeat the movement, and left no stone unturned to maintain the old regime. It is true that there were some good citizens who were somewhat in doubt as to the efficacy of the proposed new form of government, but they were in an overwhelming minority. The summer and fall were spent in discussing the proposed change in municipal affairs. The election was set for August 30, 1917, but for at least three months prior to that date the matter was thoroughly reviewed from every angle. A campaign of education was inaugurated and by the day of election every voter had had the opportunity to hear the question discussed from all sides. On the day of election all the elements of the city opposed to good government made their last stand. Even after the polls were closed on that eventful day there was an attempt to manipulate the result of the election, the returns being withheld in some of the precincts as long as possible. Those in charge of some of the ballot boxes even telephoned into the headquarters of the opposition and inquired how many votes would be necessary to defeat the proposed new charter. It was only when it was found that enough fraudulent votes could not be delivered to change the result that the vote in some precincts was reported. And thus was ushered in a new era in the city government of Xenia, and August 30, 1917, may very properly be taken as a turning point in the history of the city, the form of government then adopted going into operation January 2, 1918. The charter adopted by the voters on August 30, 1917, is provided for by the "home rule" provision of the state constitution. The key note to this form of government is efficiency, economy and direct official responsibility.

The general control of the city government is vested in a commission of five members, who are the only elective officers of the city, all other officials being selected by this centralized group of five persons. These members were elected at the November, 1917, election: Two for two years and three for four years, the one receiving the highest number of votes to be president for the first year, the commission thereafter being allowed to choose its own president. The commission designates one of its own members as mayor, but his authority is limited, the office in fact being little more than an honorary one. The members of the commission receive a nominal salary of one hundred and fifty dollars a year. The entire official responsibility for the conduct of the city's affairs rests on these five men. They conduct the management of all the various departments of the city through such officials as they may select. These officials are city manager, who is the real head of the city's government, and, as administrative head of the city, is directly responsible to the commission for his compensation and time of service; city solicitor, whose duties are prescribed by statute



OLD IFCAS BAND.

From left to right, top row—Ruben Bradley, Charles Anderson, Peter Clewell, Perry Stevenson, Dan Prugh, Leifrand Tiffany, John Andrew, Agnew J. Whittens, J. E. McGeervey, Ed Lutz, John Hutchinson, John Connable, Second row—J. C. Rehnhardt, Amos Lammann, Edward Clewell, Will Keshner, Third row—Prof. Seeley, Sam Wolf, John Beveridge, Ed. Brelsford, Henry Barnes, John R. Lucas.



and do not differ materially from those formerly performed by this official under the old form of government; city auditor, who is given large discretion and authority in issuing warrants for money, being a much more important official under the new government than he was under the old form; city treasurer and police judge, whose duties are similar to those of the same officials under the old regime; trustees of the sinking fund, four in number, whose terms of office are fixed by the commission; civil-service commission of three members, who shall have a six-year tenure. It should be stated that the tenure of the other five officials—city manager, solicitor, auditor, treasurer and police judge—may be terminated at any time by the commission; in other words, they hold office at the will of the commission. The city manager appoints all of the other employees that the city may need.

#### FIRST OFFICIALS OF NEW CITY GOVERNMENT.

The first officials elected under the new charter took their respective offices on January 2, 1918, following the election of November 6, 1917. The commission is composed of the following: J. Thorb Charters, president; Dr. A. D. DeHaven, vice-president; Arthur Whallen, mayor; C. S. Frazer and Harry Fisher. Mr. Charters became the first president by virtue of receiving the highest number of votes, while Mr. Whallen was chosen mayor by the members of the commission. The commission selected the following officials: Kenyon Riddle, city manager; J. A. Finny, solicitor; Roy C. Hayward, city auditor; J. E. Sutton, city treasurer; E. Dawson Smith, police judge; M. J. Hartley, Horace L. Smith and S. O. Hale, civil-service commission. The old members of board of trustees of the sinking fund were retained in office, this being provided for by the charter. They are to hold until the expiration of their terms of office, after which their successors are to be appointed by the city commission, the commission having the power to fix their tenure. The members of the board of sinking-fund trustees are George Galloway, John A. Nisbet, Eber Reynolds and J. W. Santmyer. They serve without compensation.

Kenyon Riddle, the new city manager, is a native of Herrington, Kansas, where he was born in 1890. He received his education in the University of Kansas, where he specialized in civil engineering. After leaving the university in 1912 he followed the profession of civil engineer for a couple of years, beginning his first work as city engineer at Abilene, Kansas, in 1914. Here he took charge of all the city's construction work and so efficient was his work that the city officials soon began to turn the management of the city over to him. He gradually developed a system of city government which attracted attention, a system which became known as

the "engineer plan" of city government. In the latter part of 1915 he resigned his position to resume his profession in a private capacity and was thus engaged when he was called to Xenia to become its first city manager. While he has only been in charge of the city's affairs a short time, he has already demonstrated his fitness for the position and has earned the confidence which the citizens have in his ability.

#### XENIA COMMERCIAL CLUB.

The Xenia Commercial Club was organized on January 25, 1915, with one hundred and twenty-six charter members. The object of the club was to create an effective working organization for the advancement of the general welfare of the city along all lines. The club has been an active factor in wakening the people of the city to a realization of its possibilities and in this way has been of real benefit.

Frank L. Smith was the first president of the club, and has been followed in order by the following: C. L. Darlington, C. L. Jobe and Charles W. Adair, the present incumbent. The other current officers are the following: F. Leon Spahr, vice-president; C. S. Frazer, treasurer; C. F. Rid-enour, secretary; G. A. Willett, R. W. Irwin, John W. Prugh, Elbert L. Babb and C. L. Jobe, board of managers. The quarters of the club are at 21 East Main street. The club meets every month, at which time the program consists generally of a banquet and speaker. The business of the club is transacted entirely by the board of managers which meets every afternoon before the regular meeting and places its business on the minutes which are then read at the regular meeting. The officers of the club meet with the board and have a voice the same as board members. The club officers are elected annually, being nominated at one regular meeting and elected at the next one. Every year the club is responsible for a minstrel show for its benefit and each such show is followed by a banquet to the cast, which is one of the big affairs of the club social calendar. The dues are ten dollars a year paid semi-annually. The club rooms consist of an office, parlor with phonograph and piano, desk and stationery, pool and billiard, baths, kitchen and dining room, committee room and large assembly or dance hall. The whole occupies two floors, which the club rents.

#### MAIN INDUSTRIES OF XENIA IN 1918.

The manufacture of cordage, shoes, monuments, canned products and flour constitute the chief products of Xenia at the present time. The Hooven & Allison Company has been engaged in the manufacture of rope, twine and cordage of all kinds since the '70s, although the present company is the successor of other companies. The R. A. Kelly Company is an offshoot of one



of the companies which was the predecessor of the Hooven & Allison Company. Robert A. Kelly came to Xenia in 1876 and took employment with a cordage company then in operation in the city, and had the honor of installing the first machinery to make rope. Later Kelly organized a company of his own and since that time there have been two separate cordage companies in the city. The Hooven & Allison Company has a branch mill in North Kansas City, Missouri, in charge of J. F. Orr, former postmaster of Xenia.

The shoe industry dates from the '80s, but it was not until P. H. Flynn became connected with the local company in 1890 that the business began to prosper. He has been president of the Xenia Shoe Manufacturing Company since 1891. The business started in an old plow factory. Two large additions to the original building have been erected—one in 1895 and the other in 1900. In the latter year Flynn assisted in the organization of the Buckeye Shoe Company, which at once erected a large building adjoining the building of the Xenia Shoe Manufacturing Company, but this new company was absorbed by the old company in 1903. The output is confined to shoes for women.

The monument industry in Xenia had its beginning in 1864, in which year George and Andrew Dodds, brothers, located in the city. The present company, known as the George Dodds Sons Granite Company, is the outgrowth of the business established by the two brothers, the present firm name not being used until 1911. There are also two subsidiary companies: Victoria White Granite Company, with quarries at Keene, New Hampshire; Milford Pink Granite Company, with quarries at Milford, Massachusetts. The Dodds brothers maintain branch offices in Chicago, in charge of Earl C. Dodds, president of the company; Indianapolis, in charge of Ralph C. Dodds. Leslie J. Dodds is head of one of the wholesale departments of the Wilson Brothers, of Chicago. John C., Frank W. and George F. Dodds, the other three of the six brothers, are located at the main offices in Xenia.

The manufacture of powder, from the very nature of the business, cannot be carried on in a city, but Xenia has always claimed to be a center of the industry, although the powder-mills are about five miles north of the city. The first powder-mill in the county, and one of the first in the state, was established in 1846 by the three Austin brothers, the site of their plant being near an old scythe factory on the Little Miami river between Xenia and Yellow Springs, the site of the present mills. The Austin brothers continued the business until 1852, when Joseph W. King bought an interest in the plant, the firm name being changed to Austin, King & Company. In 1855 King became the sole owner and at once incorporated the Miami Powder Company, under which firm name the business was conducted until December, 1914, when the plant was purchased by the Aetna Explosives Company. King sold the Miami Powder Company in 1878 and established another plant at King's Station, in

Warren county, Ohio, organizing a new company known as King's Great Western Powder Company. He was the president of his company until his death on July 8, 1885. Lyman M. Garfield, now living retired in Xenia, was the superintendent of the plant in Greene county from 1875 until January 1, 1918, when he was succeeded by J. S. Allman. The plant has been operating at full capacity since the beginning of the present World War.

The Eavey Canning Company is one of the latest industries of the city, and is doing a big business. Another recent industry is the condensing of milk, which is in the hands of the Greene County Milk Condensing Company. The manufacture of artificial ice is the business of the Shawnee Refrigeration Company, while C. H. Scott and the Fargo Mineral Springs Company are engaged in the manufacture of ice cream on an extensive scale.

It is not possible, neither would it be profitable, to trace the careers of all the various business men who have come and gone since the Civil War. They have numbered hundreds and have been engaged in a wide variety of business enterprises. There have been a number of manufacturing plants of varying size in the city in past years which have ceased operations. A gazetteer of the '80s states that the city then had a glass factory, an oil-mill, agricultural implement factory, pump factory and wagon and carriage factories, and some years before this pianos were being made in the city. All these industries have long since disappeared, but others have come to take their places. There was once a paper-mill here, but it was subsequently removed to Cedarville. The manufacture of twine and shoes has been engaged in for many years, and these two industries remain the most important in the city. The marble works of the Dodds brothers is another of the prominent industries of the city, although the nature of their business is such that they do not employ a large number of men in the city. The American Tobacco Company has what is called a "stripping" plant in the city, usually referred to locally as simply the tobacco factory. The flour-milling industry is in charge of Belden & Sons, who also operate an elevator in connection. Other elevators are owned by Ervin Brothers & Davis and Bales & Smith. To continue the list of industries of Xenia in 1918 would be to set forth more than a score of other concerns of varying size. Among these may be mentioned the following as representative of what is being manufactured in the city today: Advertising specialties, bread, baskets, brooms, candy, canned goods, cement blocks and other products, cigars, cordage machinery, corn meal, flour, harness, hog remedies, ice, ice cream, library tables, monuments, rope, shoes, soft drinks and twine.

The following pages present a comprehensive view of the business and professional life of the city as it appears on May 1, 1918. There are listed one hundred and forty different occupations, but this does not include all the occupations followed by the men of the city. While such a schedule does not

appear to be valuable at the present time as a historical document, in the years to come it will be of great value. Such a directory acquires increasing value with advancing years:

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS IN XENIA IN 1918.

Agricultural implements—C. L. Babb, Greene County Hardware Company, Huston-Bickett Hardware Company.

Ambulance (private)—Allen McClain, J. Harry Nagley, J. Harry Whitmer.

Architects—Harley W. Owens.

Auctioneers—R. R. Grieve, John Webb.

Automobile garages—Central Taxi & Garage Company, Central Garage Company, William A. Kelley, Xenia Garage Company, Elton Smith, Bocklet-King Company.

Automobile livery—Curtis Hale, Herbert C. Thatcher, E. H. Hunt, H. S. Spahr.

Automobile dealers—Baldner Motor Sales Company, Martin H. Schmidt, Central Garage Company, W. A. Kelley, Greene County Hardware Company, R. T. Harness, Sutton Auto Sales Agency, Hosier Sales Company.

Automobile Truckers—F. W. Walker Company, White & Wike Transfer Company, Harry Spencer, Bales & Smith, L. T. Peterson, R. M. Zell, John Simison.

Bakeries—F. L. Mackey, Leon Smith, Charles D. Snider.

Banks—Citizens National, Commercial & Savings Bank Company, Xenia National.

Barbers—J. S. Ayers & Son, Joseph Gaines, O. S. Harris, M. S. Johnson, W. H. Johnson, P. A. Landrum, Martin Langan, Rufus Mullen, I. N. Patterson, Jr., Elmer Pratt, G. H. Williams, Edward Wood, Robert Watkins.

Basket manufacturer—Nathaniel Williams.

Bill posters—Xenia Bill Posting Company.

Binder twine and cordage—Hooven & Allison Company, R. A. Kelly Company.

Blacksmiths—Edward Belt, Brownlee & Gilbert, A. A. Gwynn, James Harris, J. H. Lutz, Harley Minshall, W. A. Purdom, F. M. Robinett, J. T. Swadener, Charles Williamson, Confer & Dimmitt.

Bonds and stocks—D. B. John.

Book store—W. E. Boring.

Bottling works—Fargo Mineral Springs Company, Xenia Bottling Works.

Broom manufacturers—F. K. Jackson, G. G. Lackey, Strawder Liggins, Xenia work-house.

Building and loan associations—Home Building & Savings Company, People's Building and Savings Company.

Butchers—J. R. Derrick, Buck & Son, City Market Company, Fisher Bros., F. W. Sanger.

Cabinet makers—Thornhill Brothers, Jeffries Brothers.

Candy manufacturers—K. W. Scott, Kallal Ammer, Carrie L. Ashbaugh, Xenia Candy Kitchen.

Canning factory—Eavey Packing Company.

Carpenters and builders—Fremont Bowen, A. E. Compton, W. H. Hatfield, J. B. Miller, C. E. Scharff, George Shaner, Moses Swischer, Y. P. Weaver, W. T. Whittington, Samuel Wiggington, A. G. Spahr, McCurran Brothers, Dice Brothers, T. C. Owens, W. H. Peterson, D. E. Knisley, Frank Shepherd.

Carpet cleaner—Randall Arnold.

Carriage painters—F. H. Jones, John O'Connor, David Sides, Howard Donley.

Carpets—Galloway & Cherry, R. D. Adair, Hutchison & Gibney.

Caterers—Maud Guy, Charles Scott.

Cement-block manufacturers—Rountree Brothers, Concrete Block & Post Company.

Cement contractors—Schweibold & Son, Earl Short, James Mullen.

China painters—Sarah K. Collins, Stella J. Collins.

Chiropractors—Frederick Heilman.

- Cigar manufacturers—C. F. Greenlease.
- Cleaners and dyers—C. H. Russell, Xenia Dry Cleaning company.
- Clothing dealers—Criterion, Higgins & Phillips, L. S. Hyman, C. A. Kelble, Katz, Charles A. Weaver.
- Coal dealers—Belden & Sons, Newton Ledbetter, Stiles Company, Xenia Coal Company, F. W. Walker & Company, Wilson Engineering & Contracting Company, Bales & Smith.
- Coffee, tea and spices—Grand Union Tea Company, Jewel Tea Company.
- Corn meal manufacturers—Belden & Sons, Ervin Brothers & Davis.
- Creameries—Western Ohio Creamery Company, Greene County Milk Condensing Company, J. A. Long Co.
- Dairymen—Benjamin Glass, S. P. Mallow, R. W. McClellan, North Side Dairy, Raymond Reeves, J. A. Leveck.
- Decorators—W. O. Casad, Frank Johnson, Lester Barnes.
- Dentists—C. F. Keller, G. W. Kuhn, A. B. Kester, B. L. Lackey, J. S. McCampbell, Arthur C. McCormick, C. F. Oglesbee, N. T. Pavey, Eber Reynolds & Son, W. H. Sillito.
- Department stores—Hutchison & Gibney, Jobe Brothers Company.
- Drug stores—William H. Donges, Harry Sohn, D. D. Jones, Sayre & Hemphill.
- Dry goods—Samuel Engilman, Hutchison & Gibney, Jobe Brothers Company.
- Electric fixtures—W. B. Hill.
- Express companies—Adams Express Company, Southern Express Company, Wells Fargo Express Company.
- Fertilizer—Xenia Fertilizer Company, Geo. E. Spencer Fertilizer Company.
- Fish markets—Eva Leach, C. T. Rountree, Edward William, C. P. Yowler.
- Five and ten cent store—F. W. Woolworth Company.
- Florists—Floyd T. Anderson, Engle Floral Company, J. J. Lampert.
- Fruits—Abe Hyman, Jacob Hyman, Kallal Ammer, Frank Thompson.
- Funeral Directors—R. E. Holmes, Allen McClain, John H. Whitmer, T. M. Moore, Ralph M. Neeld, J. Harry Nagley, Johnson & Harris, E. W. Manley, Manley & Purnell.
- Furniture dealers—Robert D. Adair, J. A. Beatty & Son, Leroy Brower, Jeffries Bros.
- Furniture repairers—Jeffries Brothers.
- Gas—Ohio Fuel Supply Company.
- Gas fitting Asa Price, Parker Supply Company, Baldner-Fletcher Company, Luce & Spahr, proprietors.
- General merchandise—Famous Cheap Store, I. Friedman.
- Grain buyers—Xenia Grain Company.
- Grain elevators—Belden & Sons, Ervin Brothers & Davis, Bales & Smith.
- Grocers—Fetz Brothers, M. E. Davis, Million & Lippard, Robert Wright, Eavey & Company (wholesale), Mamie Baker, Aaron Bowen, William Bowen, E. W. Bradstreet, Chambliss & Son, R. A. Chambliss, Banks Corbett, Clark & Leach, M. E. Fisher, H. G. Fishing, Anna Fletcher, Fred Fraver, Nellie Gallagher, J. L. Goode, Holmes & Thomas, T. C. James, Kearney Brothers, Joseph Kennedy, Kroger Grocery & Baking Company, Lighthiser & Son, J. F. Norckauer, J. A. Payne, Elmer Pratt, H. E. Schmidt & Son (wholesale and retail), G. J. Smith & Son, William Smith, J. M. Summers, Thomas Teach, Burt Weir, J. H. Wilson, T. L. Wilson, J. N. Witham, L. & P. M. Wolf, M. F. Womack, M. J. Dunn.
- Hairdressers—Elizabeth Alexander, May B. Eyler, Myrtle Peters, Mrs. Pearl Maxwell.
- Hardware Stores—C. L. Babb, Greene County Hardware Company, Huston-Bickett Hardware Company.
- Harness shops—J. I. Knox, J. L. Bratton, J. W. Hamilton, J. T. Honiker.
- Hay dealers—G. W. Rose, James Watkins, Bales & Smith, J. P. Krise, H. S. Oglesbee.
- Hospitals—Espey Hospital, McClellan Hospital, Washington Hospital (colored).
- Hotels—Atlas Hotel, Berkley Inn, Depot Hotel and Restaurant, Frances Inn, Grand Hotel, Young's Hotel.
- House movers—Jeffries & Fudge.
- Ice dealers—Edward Jackson, F. A. Klein, L. L. Mowen, H. E. Schmidt, Shawnee Refrigeration Company.

- Ice manufacturers—Shawnee Refrigeration Company.
- Ice cream manufacturers—Fargo Mineral Springs Company, C. H. Scott.
- Jewelers—J. Thorb Charters, F. J. H. Schell, Tiffany Jewelry Store, S. J. Whitt, F. H. Mason.
- Junk dealers—Michael Abromovitz, Herman Beyer, George F. Holstein, Clayton Lowe, Xenia Iron & Metal Company, Xenia Supply Company.
- Laundries—Samuel Chong, G. W. Kaiser.
- Lawyers—Harry C. Armstrong, Michael Broadstone, C. L. Darlington, F. H. Dean, Robert L. Gowdy, John T. Harbine, Jr., M. J. Hartley, William S. Howard, Charles F. Howard, Frank L. Johnson, Harry S. LeSourd, George Little, L. T. Marshall, C. L. Maxwell, W. L. Miller, Charles C. Shearer, Marcus Shoup, E. D. Smith, Horace L. Smith, M. R. Snodgrass, Wilbur F. Trader, C. W. Whitmer, Kenneth Williamson, J. P. Kyle, Daniel G. Younkin, Charles H. Kyle, J. Carl Marshall, Harry D. Smith.
- Library table manufacturers—Thornhill Brothers.
- Livery and sales stables—Evans Brothers, J. A. Fifer, Mrs. T. O. Mason, C. W. Ryan.
- Lumber dealers—Dice Brothers Lumber Company, Greene County Lumber Company, McDowell & Torrence Lumber Company, J. T. Barnett.
- Machine shops—Baldner Motor Company, Bocklet-King Company, R. A. Kelly Company, Harley Minshall.
- Mantel and grate setters—L. P. Hilliard.
- Meat markets—Buck & Son, W. N. Dawson, Fisher Brothers, George T. Rice, F. W. Sanger, Xenia Meat Market.
- Mental Healer—Jeremiah Leming.
- Merchant Tailors—Jacob Kany, W. D. Kelble, Model Tailors, Robert Kelble.
- Milliners—Mary A. Brabec, Catharine Osterly, Ida S. Sinz, Jobe Brothers.
- Monument dealers—George Dodds & Sons Granite Company.
- Music store—W. C. Sutton, D. D. Jones.
- Music teachers—Stella C. Bishop, Stella B. Clark, Hazel Flagg, Ada M. Hebble, Lou S. Hughes, Mary G. Lanius, Margaret H. Moorehead, Bertha O. Tate, Harriet McCarty, Mrs. W. H. McGervey.
- Newspapers—Xenia Gazette (evening daily), Xenia Republican (morning daily), Xenia Herald (weekly).
- Oils—Standard Oil Company, Xenia Oil Co.
- Opticians—J. Thorb Charters, S. J. Whitt, F. H. Mason.
- Optometrists—O. P. Tiffany.
- Orchestras—Appollo, Powers Orchestra, Swindler Orchestra.
- Osteopath—R. C. Jewell.
- Painters (house and sign)—J. R. Ayers, G. E. Baker, O. M. Baxley, William Cope, George Doron, W. H. Ellison, Jonah Evans, J. M. Fudge, C. H. Gorham, W. J. Martin, C. L. McAllister, Miller & Richard, G. F. Smith, F. C. Sutton, W. O. Casad, Matthew Coulter.
- Paperhangers—Arthur Buckles, William Cousins, W. H. Ellison, G. W. Gearhart, C. H. Gorham, William Lawrence, R. C. Miller, W. H. Tibbs, W. O. Casad.
- Photographers—E. F. Canby, J. J. Downing, George Wheeler.
- Physicians—A. D. DeHaven, Paul D. Espey, William H. Finley, W. A. Galloway, R. H. Grube, H. R. Hawkins, Reed Madden (Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat), Benjamin R. McClellan, C. G. McPherson, A. C. Messenger, W. T. Savage, David E. Spahr, Ida C. Woolsey, R. Kent Finley, C. H. Lindsay, H. C. Messenger and W. T. Darnell.
- Piano dealers—W. C. Sutton, J. A. Beaman.
- Piano tuners—C. M. Suydan, Roy C. Sutton.
- Plasterers—A. E. Bossart, J. A. Evans, C. J. Gretsinger, C. W. Gretsinger, Charles Howard, Samuel Jones, Anderson Penn, J. S. Russell.
- Plumbers—Bocklet-King Company, Michael Edgeworth, A. R. Jones, J. A. North, Parker Supply Company, Asa T. Price, Baldner-Fletcher Company, Luce & Spahr, proprietors.

Pool and billiards—Frank Hustmyer, L. E. John, Elmer Pratt, Charles Taylor, Xenia Pool Room, Scott & Leach, S. E. Willett, Majestic Billiard Hall.

Postmaster—Harry E. Rice, since February 13, 1916.

Poultry yards—Forest Hill Poultry Yards, A. G. Williams.

Printers—The Chew Publishing Company, Aldine Publishing House, Mart Berry, H. E. Kiernan, Smith Advertising Company, Xenia Herald, The Xenia Publishing Company, Eckerle Printing Company.

Produce dealers—Ball Produce Company, H. B. Hole.

Quilt maker—Elizabeth Thomassen.

Repair shops—A. A. Holestein, J. H. Winters, Harley Minshall, Baldner Motor Company.

Restaurants—Atlas Hotel, S. C. Coates, Depot Hotel and Restaurant, New Manhattan, Marchant & Baker, Paul Edwards, Eley & Meahl ("Skidoo").

Rug and carpet color restorer—Rev. A. Tobey Glymp.

Saloons—Bert Blair, A. E. Brundage (known as Grand Buffet), Michael Carroll, Richard Dengess, D. A. Donavan, M. J. Dugan, W. E. Fletcher, Harris & Harris, John A. Hornick, John G. Hornick, Huston & Jeffreys, J. P. Montgomery (known as Atlas Hotel), Max Simon, Henry Sinz, Fred Harris, William A. Fiste.

Sanitarium—Mrs. Julia Whittington.

Second-hand stores—William H. Fishback, Anna Gurley, Andrew Pfohl, Henry Smith, Samuel Taylor.

Sheet metal worker—Clem Henrie, F. B. Scott.

Shoe manufacturer—Xenia Shoe Manufacturing Company.

Shoe dealers—C. S. Frazer, Adolph C. Moser, Stiles & Schweibold, Jobe Brothers, C. A. Kelble, Wear-U-Well, S. Engilman.

Shoemakers and repairers—George Alexander, J. L. Claude, John Dillencourt, J. T. Honiker, Mellage Shoe Shop, Miles Brothers, Julius Jacobson, F. H. Snyder, J. J. Troth, Philip LaBelle.

Slaughter houses—Anderson Wholesale Slaughter House.

Stationers—L. S. Barnes & Company, Sayre & Hemphill, Boring Book Store.

Storage Batteries—Oscar L. Pidgeon, L. C. R. Storage Battery Station (Willard).

Store Fixtures—Standard Manufacturing Company, Morris E. Bebb.

Suggestive Therapist—Mrs. Emma Zell.

Taxicab service—Curtis Hale, Central Taxi and Garage, William Wike.

Teamsters and draymen—Jonas Bailey, J. W. Baughn, John Bush, W. H. Cardell, Frank Jenks, Mrs. William Kennedy, I. R. Leard, C. T. Moore, Fred Moore, Amos Oglesbee, J. T. Turner, T. W. Shellet, David Stilgus, C. H. Wright, Moses Hutson, Guy Thompson, Greene & Gegner.

Telegraph companies—Postal Telegraph-Cable Company, Western Union.

Telephone companies—Central Union Telephone Company, Springfield-Xenia Telephone Company.

Theatres (moving pictures)—Bijou, Orphium.

Tinners—Baldner-Fletcher Company, Luce & Spahr proprietors; F. B. Scott, Clem Henrie.

Tobacco factory (stemmy)—American Tobacco Company.

Turkish bath house—Theodore Mitchell.

Upholsterers—J. H. McCarty.

Vault cleaner—George F. Holstein.

Veterinary surgeons—W. O. Bowers, D. C. Morgan, Paul Rothermel, R. A. Wilcox, W. C. Zell.

Wagonmakers—J. H. Lutz, Isaac Swadener.

Wall paper—L. S. Barnes & Company, Charles Johnson, W. O. Casad.

Wall paper cleaner—Rev. A. Toby Glymp.

Well drillers—W. M. Smith.

## CHAPTER XL.

### SOME GREENE COUNTY CITIZENS OF A PAST GENERATION.

In every community there are some men, who, by virtue of their talents, rise to a position above the dead level of mediocrity. This may come to pass for a great variety of reasons, but the fact remains that the careers of some men bring them more prominently to the front than other men of probably equal ability. Some men, in a measure, have a certain greatness thrust upon them; others, through their own efforts, acquire such a measure of fame as insures them more than a passing notice at the hands of their fellow citizens.

And thus it is in Greene county. In this county have lived men who have become ambassadors to foreign countries, editors of the largest newspapers in the United States, United States senators, members of Congress, attorney generals of the state, members of the General Assembly of the state, judges of county and state courts; others have become ministers of the gospel of national reputation; others still became poets whose words have been sung from one end of the country to the other; while of educators, lawyers, inventors and live-stock breeders the county has had a long list of men who have brought fame to the county. A poor boy of this county left it at the age of twenty-two and is now worth his millions, and ranks as one of the greatest lumbermen of the country. There have been graduates of West Point and Annapolis who have taken their places in the army and navy of the United States and are there today in the greatest of all wars.

Then there are still other hundreds and even thousands of men who have led useful lives in the county, yet have never had their names emblazoned on the pages of history. It is not possible to notice in this connection the large number of worthy citizens of Greene county who have served their county in such a way as to make them remembered; rather the purpose of this chapter is to single out a few of the large, outstanding figures whose names have not been confined to the county with which they were immediately identified. In other chapters of the history will be found mention of worthy men who rose to an enviable place in their particular line of activity. The medical chapter, the newspaper chapter, the church chapter, the bench and bar chapter, the military chapter and other chapters tell of hundreds and even thousands of men who have called Greene county their home.

Scattered throughout the histories of the several townships are found references to hundreds of the early pioneers who settled in them. A careful estimate shows that at least five thousand persons are mentioned in chapters other than the present one. And finally there are the sketches of hundreds of citizens of the county, most of whom are still living, to be found in the biographical volume. These sketches are full of excellent material for the historian of the future.

The present chapter includes sketches of the following men, who, for one reason or another, seem worthy of special mention in the history of the county: Whitelaw Reid, Wilbur D. Nesbit, Coates Kinney, Thomas Barlow Walker, John Little, Benjamin Whiteman, William Maxwell and John Paul.

#### WHITELAW REID.

Whitelaw Reid, a son of Robert Charlton and Marian (Ronalds) Reid, one of the greatest of American journalists and diplomatists, was born near Cedarville, Ohio, October 27, 1837. He received his bachelor degree at Miami University in 1856 and his master degree at the same school three years later. He also had a large number of honorary degrees conferred on him later in life, such universities as Princeton, Yale, Cambridge (England), St. Andrews (Scotland), Oxford (England) and Manchester (England) doing him this honor.

His first newspaper experience was gained on the *Xenia News*, of which paper he was editor in 1858-1859. From 1860 to 1868 he was on the staff of the *Cincinnati Gazette*, first as legislative correspondent (1860-1861), later as war correspondent (1861-1862), and still later as Washington correspondent (1862-1868). In 1868 he went on the staff of the *New York Tribune* and four years later he became chief proprietor and editor of the paper, continuing as such until 1905. To sum up his achievements from 1872 until his death in 1914 would be to set forth a long and distinguished list of public positions which he held. Among these may be mentioned the following: United States minister to France, 1889-1892; Republican nominee for vice-president of United States, 1892; special ambassador of the United States to Queen Victoria's jubilee, 1897; member of peace commission in Paris, 1898; special ambassador to England for coronation of King Edward, 1902; United States ambassador to England from 1905 until his death. He was the author of nearly a score of volumes of wide character, ranging from "Ohio in the Civil War" and "Newspaper Tendencies" to "Problems of Expansion" and "How America Faced Its Educational Problems." He married Elizabeth Mills, daughter of D. O. Mills, on April 26, 1881.



## WILBUR D. NESBIT.

Wilbur Dick Nesbit, author and poet, was born at Xenia on September 16, 1871, and was reared at Cedarville, where he received his schooling and where he began his newspaper career, in the office of the *Cedarville Herald*, not only learning the rudiments of the art preservative of all arts but becoming accustomed to the appearance of his own stuff in print. He remained with the *Herald* for two years and then went over to Anderson, Indiana, where he became a reporter on one of the daily newspapers of that city, presently going from that employment to the *Muncie Star*. Young Nesbit's work at Muncie attracted the attention of John T. Brush, an Indianapolis clothing merchant, who employed the young man to take charge of the advertising department of his store. In this latter employment the distinctive character of his work attracted much attention and he presently was persuaded to join the advertising staff of the *Indianapolis Journal*. There he speedily earned his spurs, his work attracting attention in the East and he was presently employed as a feature writer on the *Baltimore American*, his column in that paper, written under the *nom de plume* of "Josh Wink," quickly becoming recognized as one of the best bits of feature writing done in the country. For three years Mr. Nesbit remained in Baltimore and then he responded to the inducements that meantime had been made to get him back into the Middle West and in 1899 became a feature writer on the staff of the *Chicago Tribune*, later going over to the *Post* and in this connection continued to earn additional laurels. After awhile he accepted an attractive offer from the Mahin Advertising Company of Chicago to become the director of the copy staff of that concern. Not long afterward he assumed a proprietary interest in the concern, which at the same time changed its name to that of the Rankin Advertising Agency. Mr. Nesbit has long been recognized as one of the most versatile figures in literary circles in the United States. His great poem, "Your Flag and My Flag," is known probably to as many persons as is Riley's "Old Glory." As a librettist, Mr. Nesbit's fame is securely fixed by his co-authorship of that delightful musical comedy, "The Girl of My Dreams," while in poetic and other productions he is known as the author of numerous volumes of a pleasing character. Mr. Nesbit now makes his home at Evanston, a suburb of Chicago. In 1899, while living at Indianapolis, he was united in marriage to Mary Lee Jenkins, daughter of Dr. John Jenkins, of that city, and he and his wife have three sons, Richard, Robert and Wilbur D.

## COATES KINNEY.

Among the leading men of letters who have been identified with the state of Ohio, there are none who have written more musical verse than the late Coates Kinney. Although not a native of Greene county, yet most of his active life was spent within its limits, and the county has always been proud to number him among its distinguished men. Not only as a literary man did he rise to fame, but as a newspaper editor, as a member of the General Assembly of the state of Ohio, as lieutenant-colonel in the Civil War and as a man prominent in the affairs of the every-day life about him was he equally well known. When his famous poem, "The Rain on the Roof," was first given to the public, it was acclaimed as one of the most musical poems of the country, and there were few papers in the United States or England that did not reprint it.

Colonel Kinney was born in Jerusalem township, Yates county, New York, November 24, 1826. His parents were Giles and Myra (Cornell) Kinney, the former a native of New London, Connecticut, and the latter of Delaware county, New York. The great-grandfather of Giles Kinney came over to this country in the "Mayflower" in 1620. Myra Cornell was a daughter of Samuel and Polly Cornell. Colonel Kinney was the third of a family of twelve children born to his parents. In 1840 the Kinney family removed from New York to Springboro, Ohio, a small village in the northwestern part of Warren county. He was a leader in his class, read everything he could find and before he reached his majority was considered one of the best educated men of his county. Before reaching the age of twenty-one he was in charge of a school room and continued to teach each winter for five or six years, meantime for a while studying law in the office of Thomas Corwin, of Lebanon. He completed his law studies under the tutelage of Donn Piatt at Cincinnati and after being admitted to the bar practiced in that city for a year, and then returned to his old county, Warren, and practiced for a year. The next chapter of his life opens in Xenia, where he appeared in the latter part of the '50s. He came to Xenia to become editor of the *Xenia News*, and he continued in this capacity until the opening of the Civil War. He enlisted on June 1, 1861, and served until November 14, 1865. He was mustered in with a commission of major and detailed as a paymaster in the regular army and was mustered out with the commission of lieutenant-colonel by brevet, "for long and faithful services." As soon as he was released from service in the regular army he returned to Xenia and the issue of the *Xenia Torchlight*, dated December 6, 1865, carries his name at its head as one of the owners of the paper. He remained with the paper until December 1, 1869, when he sold his interest in it to a stock company. The remainder of his life was largely devoted to literary work. His poem, "The Rain

on the Roof," had appeared in 1849 and established his reputation as a poet. In 1876 when the state wanted to have its best poet produce a centennial ode, there was a universal demand that there was only one man in the state to write it—and that man was Coates Kinney. His poem created a profound impression, being delivered by the author in person before a vast concourse of people in the Coliseum at Columbus. In the '80s he issued a volume of his poems under the title of "Lyrics of the Ideal and the Real." The last forty years of his life were devoted to newspaper work. He was for a time editor of the *Cincinnati Daily Times*; chief editorial writer on the *Ohio State Journal* for a year; the owner and editor of the *Springfield Republic*; part owner and in full editorial charge of *The Genius of the West*, a literary magazine of Cincinnati. In the midst of his editorial duties he found time to serve his community in the state Senate as a member from the fifth senatorial district. The year 1881 saw him the leading Republican speaker in the Senate, and he has the honor of being the author of the temperance amendment to the constitution adopted the following year. The newspapers of that day credit him with being the most forceful speaker in either branch of the General Assembly.

Colonel Kinney was twice married. His first wife was Hanna Kelley, of Waynesville, Ohio, and one son, Abbott, was born to this union. The son died between the ages of five and six. He was married a second time, in December, 1862, to Mary Catherine Allen, of Xenia. He died in December, 1902.

#### THOMAS BARLOW WALKER.

Thomas Barlow Walker, one of the greatest lumbermen the country has ever produced, was born in Xenia, Ohio, February 1, 1840, a son of Platt B. and Anstic Keziah (Barlow) Walker. He taught school for a time as a young man, later becoming a traveling salesman before he located in Minnesota in 1862 at the age of twenty-two. He was first engaged in that state on government surveys and later as surveyor for the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad. During this time he began investigating in timber lands and eventually became the largest lumberman in Minnesota. He is also heavily interested in California white and sugar pine land. He was the projector and builder of the St. Louis Park and the electric line to it; built the central city market and the wholesale commission district. He was the originator and builder of the Minneapolis public library, and was president of the library board for thirty years. He is responsible for the building up of the State Academy of Science and its museum of science and art. He has a splendid collection of paintings that fills the large art gallery of the public library and also an extensive collection of ancient art in the museum room of the library. Attached to his home is the only free art gallery that is to be found in either America or Europe. His home in Minneapolis is at 807 Hennepin avenue.

## JOHN LITTLE.

In many respects John Little was one of the greatest men Greene county has ever produced. As a lawyer he ranked among the best of the county, while as a versatile man in public affairs he was easily the greatest man the county has ever produced, with the notable exception of Whitelaw Reid. From the time he was mayor of Xenia in the sixties until his death in 1900 he was before the public in some official capacity most of the time, his succession of official position including in order the following: Mayor of Xenia, prosecuting attorney of Greene county, state Legislature, attorney general of the state of Ohio, member of Congress, member of Venezuelan commission, member of the Ohio state board of arbitration and finally a member of the court house commission of Greene county.

John Little was a native son of the county, born in Ross township, April 25, 1837. He called this county his home until his death in Xenia on October 18, 1900. He lived on his father's farm until he was nineteen years of age. In 1856 he became a student in Antioch College and graduated therefrom in 1862. He then began reading law with Judge J. J. Winans in Xenia. While still reading law he was elected mayor of Xenia. He was admitted to the bar in 1865 and the following year was elected prosecuting attorney of the county, being re-elected in 1868. Before his second term as prosecuting attorney came to a close, he announced his candidacy for a seat in the General Assembly of Ohio. He resigned as prosecutor, made the legislative race and was elected by a goodly majority to the fifty-ninth session. He was re-elected and became a political power in the state. In 1873 Little was elected attorney general of the state and two years later was elected for a second term. For seven years thereafter, 1877-1884, devoted himself to his legal practice. He had been a partner of Charles G. Shearer since 1872, a partnership which continued up until the latter took his seat as a member of the circuit court of appeals in 1887. In 1884 Little was nominated for Congress by the Republicans of his district, and elected in the fall of the same year, serving from March 4, 1885, to March 4, 1887. At the close of his term in Congress he returned to his home in Xenia and resumed his practice, but two years later he was called upon to fill the position of the Venezuelan commission to which he was appointed in 1889 by President Harrison. Little was chosen president of the board and wrote the preliminary opinion concerning the disputed boundary line. Other official positions came to Little after his retirement from the Venezuelan commission. Governor McKinley appointed him as a member of the Ohio state board of arbitration and he held this position until his death. When the county commissioners decided to erect the present court house, they created what they called a court house commission and on that commission they placed John Little—the last official

position to which he was appointed. The court house was still unfinished at the time of his death, October 18, 1900.

Little was married October 19, 1865, to Barbara Jane Sheets. They had two children, George and Mary. His widow died in Xenia on May 30, 1902.

#### BENJAMIN WHITEMAN.

Benjamin Whiteman was a native of Philadelphia, born on March 12, 1769. When he was only a boy, he removed with his parents to Kentucky where he received some very valuable frontiersman experience. He was a member of General Harmar's expedition against the Shawnees and his trip up here undoubtedly influenced him to become a resident of this region later. He was married to Catherine Davis, a daughter of Owen Davis, in 1793. In the spring of 1799 he with his father-in-law came northward from Cincinnati and settled on Bever creek. After Greene county was organized, the General Assembly in the same year appointed Whiteman one of the three associate judges along with William Maxwell and James Barrett. He remained a resident of Beavercreek township until 1805 when he, with his father-in-law, Owen Davis, removed to the vicinity of Clifton after disposing of their possessions on Beaver creek. There Whitman built a large house which is standing to this day. His death occurred on July 1, 1852.

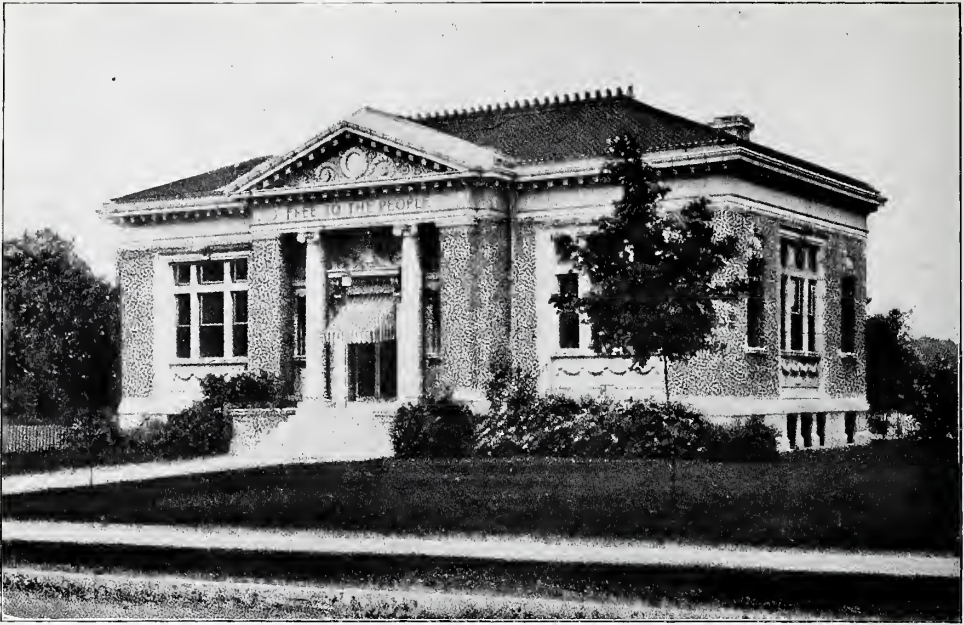
#### WILLIAM MAXWELL.

William Maxwell was a native of New Jersey. It is quite possible that he for a short time lived in Kentucky before he came across to Cincinnati. In that city, which was then only a cluster of a few log huts, he printed the first newspaper ever published in the Northwest Territory. Maxwell succeeded Abner Dunn as the second postmaster at Cincinnati. In 1799 he with his family left the little village of Cincinnati and came north, settling on what is now known as the Maxwell farm in Beavercreek township, this county. He was elected a member of the House of Representatives of the First General Assembly of Ohio, which met at Chillicothe, March 1, 1803, and he favored the law erecting Greene county. By an act of the Legislature he was appointed one of the first three associate judges of the county on April 6, 1803. He resigned his office of associate judge on December 7, 1803, was chosen sheriff of Greene county and served until 1807. He took an active interest in organizing the state militia and held the rank of major in 1805. On his farm in Beavercreek township, he devoted himself chiefly to cattle raising. His death occurred in 1809 and his grave is located on the old Maxwell farm, about one and one-half miles southeast of Alpha.

## JOHN PAUL.

The career of John Paul is closely connected with the early history of Greene county. Paul was born in Germantown, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1758, a son of Michael and Ann (Parker) Paul. The family removed to Virginia when John was only a boy and later established themselves in Kentucky. In 1778, John Paul was with Gen. George Rogers Clark in the latter's expedition against the British posts in Illinois and Indiana. In 1794 Paul married Sarah Thornberry Grover, a sister of Josiah Grover, at Danville, Kentucky, and sometime in the winter of 1799 or the spring of 1800, he brought his family to this region and located on United States land on the present site of Trebeins Station, three miles northwest of the Little Miami river. On this river he established the first water-power grist-mill and saw-mill in the neighborhood. When the first constitutional convention of the state was called in 1802, John Paul was chosen as one of the delegates for what then was Hamilton county. When the state government was established he was elected a member of the Senate in the first General Assembly of the state which met at Chillicothe on March 1, 1803. After Greene county was erected John Paul was appointed clerk of the court of common pleas. He served in this capacity, as well as auditor and recorder, until he left the county in 1809. When the question of the establishment of the county seat of Greene county was uppermost Paul was aware that the commissioners were about to decide upon a site at the forks of Shawnee run and he journeyed to Cincinnati and bought two thousand acres of land covering that point, thus becoming proprietor of the new townsite of Xenia. He left Greene county in 1809, going to Indiana Territory and settling with his family on what became the site of Madison, thus becoming an important factor in the establishment of that city. He was the father-in-law of Gov. William Hendricks of Indiana. His death occurred at Madison on June 6, 1830.





CARNEGIE LIBRARY, XENIA.



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' ORPHANS' HOME,  
XENIA.



## CHAPTER XLI.

### SIDELIGHTS ON THE HISTORY OF GREENE COUNTY.

In this chapter are set forth a number of miscellaneous facts which have come to the notice of the historian during his collection of the material for the history of the county. None of them is of sufficient importance or length to justify its being set forth separately and hence they are grouped in this one chapter.

#### AN INTERESTING LETTER OF 1809.

One of the interesting sidelights on Xenia and Greene county is disclosed by a letter which was written in 1809 by Rev. James Towler, then postmaster of the village, to some Eastern friend, in which he sets forth some interesting facts about Xenia and the county in general. The letter follows:

Xenia, Ohio, May 8, 1809.

This town is the seat of justice of Greene county. It was laid out in the fall of 1803 by Joseph C. Vance, and contains at this time twenty-eight families and one hundred and fifty souls, a court house of brick, forty feet square, with a cupola. The town is washed by Shawnee creek, a branch of the Little Miami river, from whose mouth we are three miles, and fifty-five miles from Chillicothe. In the county are nine grist-mills, nine saw-mills, one fulling-mill and one nail factory. Never failing and excellent springs are numerous. The Yellow Springs, which are deemed a natural curiosity, are nine miles north of this place. It takes its name from a yellow and pale red sediment, which it emits from the water, and of which a large bank is found below the spring, over which the water has a fall of seventy feet into a hollow. It is believed the spring affords a sufficiency of water to turn a grist-mill the year round, and is said to be impregnated with copper, copperas and iron. It is considerably visited during the summer season, and affords relief for sore eyes, rheumatism, etc. It is diuretic, and the sediment when ground in oil, paints as well as Spanish brown. The falls of the Little Miami (which is about three miles distant, fall over a rock twelve feet perpendicular, and the whole distance, two hundred feet) are of considerable importance to this county. There are remains of artificial walls and mounds in several parts of the county.

Our trade is chiefly in hogs and cattle, which are purchased by drovers for the eastern markets and Detroit. There are two stores in town, which I consider a great evil, as they keep our neighborhood drained of cash. We have extensive prairies. Wolves have been bad on our sheep. Corn, wheat and rye are our principal crops. The soil is generally good and pretty equally divided between upland and bottom. The settlers are principally from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia and Kentucky. Religion, Methodist, Seceders and Baptist. The county is twenty miles long and twenty miles broad, and is about one hundred miles from Lake Erie.

#### OHIO SOLDIERS AND SAILORS ORPHANS HOME.

Greene county is justly proud of the Ohio Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home, which is located near the county seat. It has nearly completed half a century of its career and during these years has been the means of caring for

thousands of orphans of the soldiers and sailors of the state. The agitation for a home for the orphaned children of Ohio soldiers and sailors began in 1869 and it was the city of Xenia that began the agitation. At first it was planned to establish such a home on a private basis, with the hope that the state would later take over its management. With this idea in view a number of Civil War soldiers and citizens of Xenia and from various parts of the state met in the city hall on June 31, 1869, to discuss plans for the establishment of a home for such children as had been orphaned by the Civil War, the state being fairly well represented. The chief address was made by Chaplain Collier, then acting as agent for the recently organized Grand Army of the Republic, and he presented the matter in such a light that he aroused the citizens of Xenia to the point where they were willing to take immediate steps toward providing a home in Xenia. Two weeks later, July 13, a second meeting was held in Xenia which was still better attended, Governor Hayes, Congressman Winans, Captain Earnshaw and others addressing the people on the question. Before the meeting closed a subscription paper was started around the room and within a short time the sum of sixteen thousand dollars was pledged toward the establishment of the home. Three public-spirited citizens of Xenia, J. C. McMillen, Eli Millen and Lester Arnold, made individual subscriptions of one thousand dollars.

Once the project seemed assured the newspapers of Xenia took up the work and aroused the county to the need of such an institution. A committee was appointed to look for suitable quarters for a home, and it was soon found. On the 21st and 22nd of the same month the annual convention of the Grand Army of the Republic was held at Sandusky, Ohio, nine delegates from Xenia being present. The question of the establishment of a home was thoroughly discussed, but no definite action was taken. The delegates from Xenia, however, secured the adoption of a resolution which provided for the acceptance of the real estate offered by Xenia, together with such funds as the county had pledged. In the fall of 1869 a board of control was created by the Grand Army of the Republic, consisting of the following: Gen. George B. Wright, Major M. S. Gunckel, Col. H. G. Armstrong, Eli Millen, Judge William White, Mrs. Rutherford B. Hayes (wife of the governor), Mrs. H. L. Monroe and Mrs. Ann E. McMeans. They held a special meeting on October 11, 1869, and agreed to accept the location offered by the citizens of Xenia. It must be remembered that the whole proposition thus far was a private venture, backed though it was by the Grand Army of the Republic, and that the state had so far had nothing to do with it. Of course, it was confidently expected that the General Assembly which met in January, 1870, would assist the project in some way,

but those behind the movement were going ahead just as if the state was not going to assist.

During the fall of 1869 a number of orphaned children were being cared for in Xenia in the McMillen home on Main street, the board leasing the building and placing Mrs. Ann McMeans in charge. The board of control let the contract for the erection of four cottages to cost about \$1,650 each. All this was done in the fall and early winter of 1869. The physical welfare of the children was placed in the hands of Dr. Joseph G. Kyle, of Xenia, while a committee was appointed to look after their spiritual welfare. This committee, composed of Th. Drees, John W. King, Daniel Milten, J. C. McMillen, A. Trader, W. Keller, A. H. Baughman, W. C. Hutchinson and J. C. Cooper, met on January 3, 1870, and selected J. H. Cooper superintendent of a Sunday school which had its quarters in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association. During the month of January, 1870, there were eighty-one children being cared for in the city. During this month Mrs. McMeans resigned and Major McGunckel was placed in charge of the children. During the same month the following assistants were appointed: Mrs. Edington, Chicago, matron; Mrs. S. A. Brockaway, assistant matron; Della Johnson, Bellefontaine, teacher; Miss Ensign, Berlin Heights, teacher; Miss Buchanan, Clifton, head of the sewing department.

The children kept coming to Xenia in such numbers during the winter of 1869-70 that it became necessary to take immediate steps toward providing more commodious quarters for them. Consequently, on January 23, 1870, it was decided to construct a large frame building for the combined purpose of a dormitory and dining room, and also provide for the erection of five additional cottages. On the day these contracts were let, the superintendent of the home reported that he now had about one hundred children under his charge and that as many more had applied for admission.

Meantime the General Assembly had convened and a bill had been introduced which provided that the state assume the management of the Home. The Legislature appointed a committee to visit Xenia and report on the situation and this committee returned to Columbus after its visit on February 28 with one unanimous opinion—that the care of the orphaned children of the soldiers and sailors of the state should be assumed by the state. Here is where politics stepped in and Xenia came very near losing the Home altogether, despite what the citizens of the city had already done, and despite the fact that the Home was now getting well established. It is not necessary to enter into a discussion of what happened in the Legislature, it being sufficient to state that when the bill passed, providing that the state should take over the management of the Home, it was specifically provided that the establishment should be at White Sulphur Springs instead of at

Xenia. The friends of the Home then established at Xenia had actually contributed money and property to the amount of thirty thousand dollars, all of which they stood ready to turn over to the state. But their gift was rejected. The matter was discussed in the Legislature for several weeks before the bill became a law on April 14, 1870, but as it finally passed the Home was to be taken from Xenia and placed at White Sulphur Springs. At the latter place there was then the state reform and industrial school for girls, the state owning one hundred and eighty-nine acres at that place. There seemed to be nothing for Xenia to do but acquiesce.

But the matter did not settle itself as easily as the legislators may have thought it would. The governor, acting under the law, appointed a board of directors composed of R. P. Buckland, James Barnett, J. Warren Keifer, B. F. Coate, W. F. Force, J. S. Jones and H. G. Armstrong—none of them from Xenia. The board met on April 21, 1870, to organize and take the preliminary steps toward the removal of the Home from Xenia to White Sulphur Springs. It was found that there were at that time no fewer than one hundred and twenty-five children being cared for at Xenia and that immediate steps would have to be taken to provide for them. It was represented to the board that they had been practically dependent on volunteer donations from the citizens of the state, and particularly from the people of Xenia and immediate vicinity. It was ordered by the board that it assume the control of the children at once, but leave them in their present home at Xenia until arrangements were made to care for them at White Sulphur Springs. On April 29, 1870, the board met at Delaware and inspected the property at the latter place, finding it then occupied by the reform and industrial school for girls. They soon came to the conclusion that the buildings there were not in any way suitable for the housing of the children.

The situation at this point seemed to be in confusion. The Legislature had ordered the children to be removed to the new location, and yet on examination it was seen that they could not be accommodated there. But the Legislature had said that they must go. It was at this juncture that the board of control of the reform and industrial school laid the matter before the attorney general of the state, asking him to pass on the law. In the meantime the management of the other institution had addressed the school, asking when it would be ready to turn over sufficient room to accommodate the children at Xenia. No reply being received, and feeling that something had to be done, and done at once, the board of the Orphans Home met at Delaware on May 13, 1870, and adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, In the opinion of the board, the White Sulphur Springs property will not accommodate comfortably and well, all the children of diseased and disabled soldiers and sailors of the class contemplated by the law of Ohio as orphans, to be provided for at a Soldiers and Sailors Orphans Home; therefore,

Resolved, That in view of the above opinion, the board will accept and receive, under the law of the state, by donation or bequest, a suitable tract of land, of the number of acres required by law, at a convenient and accessible point, with the necessary buildings and equipments thereon, for the accommodation of not less than two hundred and fifty orphans, and upon such acceptance, open, and establish a home for Ohio soldiers' and sailors' orphans, as is prescribed by law.

It is not necessary to discuss the legal aspect of the situation here, but it turned out later that the attorney general of the state decided that a strict interpretation of the law would keep the institution at White Sulphur Springs intact, and that therefore the location of the children's home at Xenia was within the intent of the law. At a meeting of the board of the Home in Xenia on May 25, 1870, the board of the reform and industrial school stated substantially these facts in a letter which they addressed to the board of the Home. Thus the matter was finally settled, and the Home was finally and legally located at Xenia. There were some legal obstructions to remove before the matter was finally settled, but the children continued to reside in Xenia and are there yet in 1918.

In the summer of 1870 the buildings which had been contracted for in the fore part of the year were completed and turned over to the state. During the summer Dr. I. D. Griswold was appointed superintendent, with his wife acting in the capacity of matron. When the buildings were formally turned over to the state on August 16, 1870, there were 123 children in the home, their average age being nine years. Nearly the same number were ordered admitted on this date, the board estimating that there were approximately 800 children then in the state who were entitled to the privileges of the institution. The original act provided for the maintenance of only 250 children, but in 1871 the Legislature made another appropriation to take care of a larger number. The original amount of land was one hundred acres, but this amount has been increased from time to time until the Home now contains 360 acres.

The history of the institution from August 16, 1870, the day that the state took it over, down to the present year has been one of steady growth. New buildings have been added as they were needed, the state having always been a generous supporter of the institution. A system of practical education was early introduced, and the children taught some useful trade. When they leave the Home they are equipped to step out into the world and make their own way. On February 16, 1879, the administration and domestic buildings were destroyed by fire, the total loss being about \$75,000. The Legislature at once made appropriations to replace the buildings. None of the cottages was burned and no lives were lost. On April 27, 1884, a cyclone tore off the roofs from the hospital, laundry, and several other buildings; completely demolished the barn, wagon and tool sheds, and some

other smaller buildings. It also removed a large portion of the east veranda of the main building. Of course, fences and trees were leveled completely. Only two employees were slightly injured, although there were about seven hundred and fifty men, women and children in the buildings at the time. The damage to the Home was repaired at a cost of about \$7,500.

The number of children in the Home is constantly changing, the last report showing 694 in attendance—353 boys and 341 girls. The number has averaged about 700 the year around for several years, although at the close of the school year there is always quite a number who leave. The children are housed in two-story cottages, the single cottages providing quarters for about twenty and the double cottages about fifty children.

The buildings in 1918 include the following structures: The administration building, with a domestic building attached, the two forming an Egyptian cross; twenty single and twelve double cottages; nursery building of two stories with accommodations for fifty children; two school buildings; chapel with a seating capacity of 1,000; armory for use of cadets and special occasions; hospital and five hospital wards; and a miscellaneous group of buildings including a laundry, ice plant, storehouse, power house, mechanical building, industrial buildings, water pumping station, greenhouses, slaughter house and all the necessary farm buildings. The domestic building contains a dining room on the first floor with seating accommodation for 1,000 people at a time, the second floor of this building being used as sleeping rooms for the employees, and also for a linen storehouse. All buildings are heated with hot water and lighted with electricity. The following trades are taught: Printing, electrical, machinist, plumbing, tailoring, shoemaking, baking, carpentering, painting, tinning, plastering, blacksmithing, barbering, butchering, farming, gardening, laundering and flower culture.

The superintendents of the institution from the beginning, with the dates of their appointments, are as follows: Dr. L. D. Griswold, April 29, 1870; Dr. A. E. Jenner, May 15, 1874; Mrs. Adelia A. Nelson and James Hoyle, October 22, 1874; W. P. Kerr, November 17, 1874; Major William Shaw, March 29, 1876; Dr. George Keifer, July 20, 1878; N. R. Wyman, April 17, 1879; Major William Shaw, 1880; W. J. Alexander, August 15, 1884; Dr. C. B. Jones, March, 1885; Noah Thomas, November 1, 1886; Gen. Charles L. Young, April 1, 1890; David Lanning, May 16, 1895; Nelson A. Fulton, November 15, 1898; Gen. Charles L. Young, May 1, 1900; James L. Smith, August 12, 1904; E. D. Sawyer, February 22, 1909; Joseph P. Elton, July 15, 1910; J. S. Kimbrough, July 1, 1916; Joseph P. Elton, since July 16, 1917.

## FIRST AND LAST HANGING IN GREENE COUNTY.

There has never been but one legal execution in Greene county, and it has been so long ago that few people now living in the county remember it. The story may be briefly told. On the evening of Wednesday, June 20, 1849, Jesse Ransbottom killed his wife at the village of Fairfield. He was in the house waiting for her to return from a visit, and as soon as she stepped in the door, she saw that he meant to do her harm. Turning quickly she fled from the house, closely followed by the maddened husband. He caught her a short distance from the house and after a desperate struggle cut her throat from ear to ear. The murderer returned to the house and attempted to cut his own throat, but only succeeded in making a couple of harmless scratches across his throat, saying afterwards that "it hurt too bad."

Ransbottom was immediately arrested, making no attempt to escape. It was brought out at the subsequent trial that he was jealous of his wife. The trial was begun on October 18, 1849, with Judge Vance presiding. Joseph G. Gest was the prosecuting attorney and handled the state's case, while Ellsberry & Sexton appeared for the defendant. The prisoner pleaded not guilty and the following jury was then impaneled: Bennet Lewis, Peter Babb, Walter Perry, Nathan Plowman, William Baker, Michael Dougherty, George Glotfelter, James A. Brown, Samuel W. McCoy, Abraham Ellis, John D. Burrell and David Puterbaugh. The jury heard the evidence of about twenty-five persons and returned a verdict of murder in the first degree. The judge sentenced the prisoner to death by hanging, making the date of execution January 25, 1850, thus giving the doomed man about three months to meditate on his sins.

After Ransbottom was sentenced there were repeated efforts made to have the governor commute the sentence. Ransbottom apparently believed that he was going to be released and it was not until the carpenters began to construct the scaffold under his jail window that he gave up hope. He watched the erection of the gallows with an intense interest. The jail then stood on the corner of the court house yard. The gallows had been surrounded by a high board fence, enclosing a piece of ground eighteen by thirteen feet. The fence was eighteen feet high, with the boards three feet in the ground, the enclosure facing Greene street. The ground within was covered with sawdust. In the exact center was driven a small stake, to which a rope was attached, the rope running over wheels placed in a beam overhead and thence down the side of the upright holding the beam. At the end of the rope was a heavy iron ball, about two feet from the ground. Thus

was the scene of the only hanging in the county as described by the *Xenia Torchlight* in its first issue following the execution.

The hour of the execution finally arrived—three o'clock in the afternoon. At the appointed hour the prisoner was led out from the jail by the sheriff and a minister. Ransbottom walked alone, with a firm step, cool and apparently indifferent to his fate. He stepped up on the scaffold, stood beside the rope, quietly and without any trace of emotion, folded his hands across his breast and waited for the sheriff to do his duty. When asked if he had anything to say, he reverently said: "Oh, Lord! have mercy on me! Oh, my poor mother! My poor wife! My poor children!" The sheriff then adjusted the rope about his neck and stepped back in order to be ready to spring the trap, but before doing so, asked the prisoner whether he had anything more to say. "Yes, will you see that I am buried up yonder (pointing north toward Champaign county)?" queried the man in a strangely calm voice. The sheriff, who had his grave already dug just outside the edge of Xenia, was a little flustered, but he managed to reply, "I'll see that you are buried decently." The black cap was then pulled over his head. He folded his arms carefully over his breast—and waited. He did not have to wait but a few seconds. The sheriff pulled the trap, the wretched creature dropped with a thud, the attendant physician held his watch the legal time, the rope was cut and the first and last execution Greene county has ever had was at an end. He had died without a struggle, the local paper saying that not a muscle moved after he dropped.

#### INSPIRATION OF "SHERIDAN'S RIDE."

It is a matter of local interest to know that the man who proved the inspiration for the composition of the famous war poem, "Sheridan's Ride," was born and reared in Greene county and that the stirring poem was written in that Greene county man's house at Cincinnati. In "Howe's Historical Collections of Ohio" (Vol. II, p. 392) it is noted that "this famous poem beginning with—

'Up from the South at break of day,  
Bringing to Winchester fresh dismay,'

"was a great factor in spreading the fame of Sheridan, and goes linked with it to posterity, together with the name of T. Buchanan Read, the poet-painter, who wrote it for James E. Murdoch, the elocutionist. Read died, May 11, 1872, in New York, while Murdoch is still [1888] living in Cincinnati, where he is greatly respected, and at the advanced age of eighty years."

The history of its production is thus given in the *Cincinnati Commercial Gazette* of July 17, 1887, by Henry W. Teetor:



"Sheridan's Ride" was composed Monday, November 1, 1864, in the front room of a three-story brick building, yet standing, and now known as No. 49 West Eighth street, then occupied by Cyrus Garrett, Esq., brother-in-law of Mr. Read.

The simple story of the composition of the famous ode is this: The evening of that day had been set apart for the Murdoch ovation, which took place at Pike's Opera House. Mr. E. D. Grafton, the eminent artist, had met Garrett upon Fourth street in the morning and handed him *Harper's Weekly*, containing the picture of "Sheridan's Ride to the Front." After a word of conversation in regard to the illustration, Garrett took the picture to his residence and soon after the subject of the celebrated ride, as sketched, came up. The following is Mr. Murdoch's account of that conversation, as told upon the stage by way of prelude to reading the poem: "During the morning a friend with whom I was conversing happened to pick up the last issue of *Harper's Weekly*, on the title page of which was a picture of Sheridan. 'There's a poem in that picture,' said my friend. 'Suppose I have one written for you to read tonight?' 'But,' I replied, 'I shall not have time to look it over and catch its inner meaning and beauties, and besides I am not in the habit of reading a poem at night written in the morning.'"

That friend was Cyrus Garrett, who had previously familiarly said to his brother-in-law, "Buck, there is a poem in that picture." To which Read replied, "Do you suppose that I can write a poem to order, just as you go to Sprague's and order a coat?" After this Read and Murdoch parted—Read to his room and Murdoch to his musings.

When Read retired to his room, he said to his wife: "Hattie, do not let me be interrupted. I am not to be called even if the house takes fire." During his seclusion, Read called for a cup of strong tea and then resumed his pen. About noon his work was done. The poem was given to his wife, to copy, while Read at once left home and, going to the studio of his friend, said, "Grafton, I have just written something fresh—hot from the oven—and left Murdoch committing it for a recitation tonight."

Concerning the reception of that poem, as inimitably interpreted by Murdoch, the *Commercial's* report was, "Peal after peal of enthusiasm punctuated the last three glowing verses. So long and loud was the applause that Mr. Murdoch was called to the footlights, and Mr. Read only escaped the congratulations of the audience by refusing to respond, as he could not adequately do, he seemed to think, to the clamorous utterances of his name."

Cyrus Garrett, who has thus above been set out as the inspirational source of the poem "Sheridan's Ride," was born in Greene county and was reared here in the household of his maternal grandfather, Matthew Quinn, who came up here with his family from Kentucky in 1803, a member of the considerable colony of Seceders (Associate Presbyterians) that settled in that year on Massies creek and formed the nucleus of the numerous congregation to which the Rev. Robert Armstrong, the man who named Xenia, later ministered so faithfully. Matthew Quinn was born in Ireland, a son of Nicholas Quinn, and was educated at Dublin for the ministry, but did not follow that profession; instead, coming when twenty-three years of age, in company with his brother Nicholas, to the United States. He was married in Pennsylvania and after a sometime residence there moved to Kentucky, remaining there until he came up here with his family in 1803 and established his home on the southwest quarter of section 5, township 3, range 7 (now and long since known as the Routzong farm), where he and his wife Mary spent the remainder of their lives and where, as it is narrated, "they reared, in the fear of God and in the highest respect of their neighbors, a

large family. Matthew Quinn, as became his large talents, liberal education and fine culture, straightway became a man of much influence in the rapidly forming community. He was a devoted Christian gentleman and morning and night led his family before the Throne of Grace, thus bringing them up in the full nurture and admonition of the Lord. He died in 1836, leaving the legacy of a good name as a priceless heritage to his family." It might properly be added to this little sidelight on this pioneer that he was buried on his farm and that his grave is still there carefully guarded against agricultural intrusion, the family which has been in possession of the place for many years having thoughtfully cared for it.

Matthew Quinn was the father of ten children, Samuel, John, Amos, Hervey, Elias, Matthew, Rosenna, Nancy, Letty and Ann, the latter of whom married Robert Dow and was the mother of Judge Duncan Dow, formerly one of the most familiar figures in public life in Ohio. Samuel Quinn married one of the Hopping girls and moved to Monmouth, Illinois. He had four children. John Quinn married Mary Nash and had four children. In 1849 he started overland for California and died on the plains in Arizona. Amos Quinn, who was for seven years sheriff of Greene county and in 1835 representative in the Legislature from this district, married Jane Goe and had three children, Elias, who became a lumber dealer at Xenia, Sarah and Alice, the latter of whom, widow of the late John B. Lucas, is still living. Amos Quinn was regarded as one of the leaders of his generation in Greene county and is referred to as "a brilliant gentleman, his own cultured father having been his teacher." Hervey Quinn married one of the Humphrey girls and had several children. Elias Quinn died unmarried and Matthew Quinn died in youth. Rosenna Quinn married David Garrett and lived to be past ninety years of age, her last days being spent in the home of her daughter, Frances, wife of the Rev. Gilbert Small, at Idaville, Indiana. She was the mother of four children. Nancy Quinn married Henry Heffley and had four children and Letty Quinn was the mother of Cyrus Garrett, mentioned above and in connection with whose association with the writing of "Sheridan's Ride" this pioneer "sidelight" is presented.

#### AN UNPUBLISHED POEM OF READ'S.

The association between Cyrus Garrett and his brilliant brother-in-law, Thomas Buchanan Read, was ever of the closest. Garrett became a wealthy manufacturer at Cincinnati, head of the firm of Garrett & Cottman, whose plows had a wide celebrity in their day, and by reason of the Reads residing with him his home was for years a sort of a rendezvous for the literary and artistic "lights" of that city. Read's greatest poem, that wonderful epic of "the crossing," the Western emigration period, entitled "The New Pastoral,"

was dedicated to Cyrus Garrett and upon the occasion of the latter's twenty-second wedding anniversary Read read a poem which he had written especially for that event. The same later was printed for private circulation and Mrs. Lucas, who often visited in the home of her cousin Cyrus at Cincinnati and was an intimate friend of the poet, still has a copy of the poem, which does not appear in the general works of the author and which is therefore here presented for the first time to the public eye under the title:

## IMPROMPTU LINES.

In the days when the Gods had the rule of the earth,  
 Young Mercury, glowing with mischief and mirth,  
 Stole away from bright Venus her beautiful son;  
 Then as swift as his feathery sandals could run,  
 Sought the forge where stout Vulcan with earth-shaking blows  
 Was shaping those red bolts which Jupiter throws;  
 And cried "I have brought you the bravest of fellows  
 That ever was known to take hold of a bellows."  
 So speaking, he held little Cupid out kickin'  
 By the wings, as a market-man holds out a chicken,  
 And he and the smith went to bandying jargon,  
 Each striving with each for the best of the bargain.  
 At last it was finished—and what do you guess  
 He gave for the urchin?—he couldn't do less—  
 (Though Mercury thought it couldn't be stupider)—  
 A bundle of bolts just finished for Jupiter!  
 Then the kid-napper stating what haste he was under,  
 Took a drink, and made off with his armload of thunder!  
 While poor little Cupid went dismally skulkin'  
 Through the dust and the cinders that lay round Vulcan.  
 Again roared the bellows:—half ready to melt,  
 The white iron hissed and came down with a pelt  
 On the terrible anvil, and shed such a blaze  
 Of fire-works, Cupid was lost in a-maze,  
 And stood all a-droop, more in fright than in pain,  
 Like a storm-beaten chanticleer out in the rain.  
 Just then there was seen coming down the highway,  
 A lady, attired—it needs not to say  
 In what fashion, at least not as now in our day—  
 Her dress was becoming, be sure, for, between us,  
 She came in the guise of no other than Venus!  
 When Vulcan beheld her, entranced at the sight,  
 (The smiths to the ladies are always polite)  
 He invited her in and was sorry to trace  
 The shadow of pain over-veiling her face;  
 But e'er she could tell what was grieving her so,  
 She heard from the corner the twang of a bow;  
 Through his heart the stout smith felt the swift arrow flee,  
 And drop't like a poor stricken ox on his knee!  
 Cried Venus, indignant, "You murdering young urchin,  
 It is you I have been all the morning a searchin'  
 If but once I can catch you, you worst of wild minions,  
 I'll strip every pen-feather out of your pinions!

Will you dare aim at me with your impudent dart?"—  
 He dared!—and the swift arrow slaughtered her heart!  
 And the bright Queen of Beauty, just there at the stith,  
 Fell a captive for life in the arms of the smith!  
 While Cupid with laughter shook out his bright pinions,—  
 And the smith-shops henceforth were his favorite dominions.  
 Fair Flora and Ceres, missing Venus and Cupid,  
 Thought life on Olympus was getting quite stupid,  
 And even the Muses and all of the Graces  
 Declared it was growing the dullest of places—  
 So, down they all hurried, and crowded their bulk in  
 The great sparkling workshop of jolly old Vulcan;  
 And there on the anvil they pledged a great vow  
 That the thing they most prized in the world was a plow!  
 And declared none but Venus, so lovely and winnin',  
 Should mate with a blacksmith, and tend to his linen.  
 So Venus and Vulcan took up their abode  
 In a cottage adjacent, that stood by the road;  
 She gave up her loves and her doves, so bewitchin',  
 And sewed on the buttons and looked to the kitchen.  
 He gave up his toil for the thundering God,  
 And turned all his bolts into shares for the sod.  
 Now many a plow that was shaped by his hand,  
 Turns up the subsoil of our beautiful land;  
 From the lakes to the gulf, far as sight can pursue,  
 There travels the "Rover," in color true blue,  
 Preferred by all nations, the Dutch and the Scot-man,  
 Especially when warranted "Garrett & Cottman."

Cincinnati, April 6, 1859.

—T. BUCHANAN READ.

#### SOME PRICES IN GREENE COUNTY IN 1818.

When the sparseness of the population of Greene county in the first ten years of its existence, the scarcity of money, the high price of manufactured articles and the accompanying low price paid for the produce of the settlers are taken into consideration it is not a matter of wonder that the pioneer household was self-sufficient. The pioneer grew his own wool, and the good housewife and her daughters washed it, carded it, spun and wove it into cloth. Then she turned tailor and made it into garments for the entire household. The farmer grew his own flax, which in turn was made into garments ready to wear without its leaving the farm. The settler raised his own hogs for his meat and lard, boiled down the sugar sap for his own sugar, ground his own corn for "johnny cakes," distilled his own whisky and made his own shoes. The means of transportation were so clumsy that manufactured articles from the factories in the East could be obtained only at great expense and effort. Therefore this new county of Greene offered but few inducements to the enterprising merchant. There is much talk about the high cost of living now, but the cost of manufactured commodities then was much higher than now and the amount the settler received for his produce was almost paltry.

That the prices of one hundred years ago are at great variance with those of today may be readily seen from a study of the following prices as copied from a local newspaper of 1818: Coffee, 43 $\frac{3}{4}$ c lb.; tea, \$2.24 lb.; sugar, 16  $\frac{2}{3}$ c lb.; salt, 6c lb.; calico, 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ c yd.; dimity, 75c yd.; flannel, 62c yd.; muslin, 50c to \$1.00 yd.; linen, 62c yd.; silk, \$2.00 yd.; cravats, 75c each; bandana handkerchiefs, \$1.25 each; ribbon, 25c yd.; shoes, \$1.25 pr.; suspenders, \$1.00 pr.; candles, 25c lb.; copperas, 25c lb.; lead, 12c lb.; brooms, 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ c each; coffee mills, \$1.25 each; augurs, \$4.33 each; bridle bits, \$3.00 each; brass kettles, \$3.00 each; shovels, \$1.75 each; spades, \$1.75 each; sheep shearers, 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ c pr.; flax seed, 50c cwt.; butter, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c lb.; eggs, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c doz.

#### THE FIRST PIANO MANUFACTURED IN GREENE COUNTY.

There are few people living in Greene county today who know that pianos were once manufactured in Xenia, but in the days before the Civil War they were made in the town by the grandfather of J. Thorb Charters, now a jeweler of the city and president of the city commission. The great-great-grandfather of Mr. Charters, John by name, came from Scotland with his wife and two sons to America in 1784 and located in New York City. One of these two sons was George, then a lad of nine, who, at the age of sixteen was apprenticed to the firm of Dodds & Claus, New York, to learn the "art and mystery" of the manufacture of musical instruments. He served an apprenticeship of six years from 1791, the original agreement between him and his employers now being in the hands of his great-grandson, J. Thorb Charters. At the expiration of his apprenticeship he went into business for himself in the manufacture of piano-fortes, later having a partner in the business.

Subsequently George Charters decided to settle in Cincinnati. He was then married and had a number of children, but this did not deter him from making the long and hazardous trip. The family went overland to Pittsburgh, then took a raft for Cincinnati, arriving there sometime in the '20s. Here George Charters began the manufacture of pianos and had the honor of making the first piano in the state of Ohio, and undoubtedly the first one west of the Alleghanies. He was there for a number of years, not more than ten probably, when he decided to locate in Greene county, Ohio. He was moved to this action largely because he wanted to rear his children in a Presbyterian community, and there was no church of his faith then in Cincinnati.

The year 1833 found him with his large family located in Greene county on what is now known as the Duck farm near Bellbrook. It seems that he devoted all of his time to farming as long as he lived on the farm, but the desire to follow the trade for which he had been trained induced

him to locate in Xenia after a few years. Here he at once began the manufacture of pianos, this being probably in the latter part of the '30s or fore part of the '40s. It is not known how many pianos he manufactured, but it was evident that in such a newly settled community and with so many people with religious objections to the use of the piano he could not find a sale for many of them.

George Charters had a son John, who, naturally, as might be expected, learned the trade. But it appears that John had also learned the trade of a jeweler in New York City. John, however, worked with his father making pianos, and after his father's death continued the business for a time. During the time he was making pianos himself he made the one which is now in the home of his grandson, J. Thorb Charters. This piano has his name inlaid in the case and bears evidence to the skill and craftsmanship of its builder. John Charters eventually quit the piano business and became interested in the making of daguerreotype pictures. He had more than a smattering of chemistry, and the making of this primitive picture necessitated a considerable knowledge of chemistry, a fact which lead John Charters into the business. There was a man in Xenia in the fore part of the '50s who had just introduced the people of the town to the daguerreotype, but his knowledge of chemistry was so deficient that he was forced to call on Charters for assistance. Charters showed such skill in the making of the pictures that he soon decided to buy out the artist then in the city and go into the business for himself. This he did and for a number of years he was the only daguerreotype artist in the town. Before this time he had been in the jewelry business, but this he sold and devoted all of his time to his new vocation—the making of daguerreotypes. His son, John, the father of J. Thorb Charters, followed his father in the jewelry business, establishing himself in this business in Xenia in 1854.

Since the days of the grandfather of J. Thorb Charters there have been no pianos made in Xenia, but the piano made back in the '50s shows that its builder was indeed an artist of the first class. The piano is now nearly seventy years old, but it shows no flaw in its workmanship to this day.

#### OPENING OF GREENE STREET.

It is said that the love of money is the root of all evil. But it would be hard to get any citizen of Greene county to admit that Greene street in Xenia is an evil, and yet it was a desire on the part of the county commissioners to get money for the use of the county which led directly to the setting off of a part of the public square as a street. The commissioners first tried to sell a part of the square, and when they were baffled in this direction they resorted to leasing parts of the public square for fifteen-year periods.

In 1835 the commissioners needed money, and needed it badly. They had just completed a couple of years previously a two-story, six-room office building on the square, and in 1835 were in the midst of the erection of a new jail. Money they must have and here follows a curious effort on their part to get it. They conceived the idea (it would be uncharitable to say that it was conceived in sin) of leasing for a period of ninety-nine years, three separate lots: one lot on the southeast corner of the square,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  by 68 feet; a lot immediately back of the aforesaid lot, 40 by 100 feet, the rear of this second lot abutting the alley on the south side of the jail lot; finally, a lot 40 by 170 feet on Detroit street, beginning 80 feet from the southwest corner of the square. At this time, 1835, the county was already leasing to the town of Xenia, a strip of 80 feet wide on the north side of the square for a market house and yard, an engine house, public scales, and a public wood-ward.

But in order that there might be access to the lots on the east side of the square the commissioners were forced to provide a street or alley along that side—hence came about the street known today as Greene. At the time the surveyor was laying off the square the commissioners had him to stake off a strip two poles—thirty-three feet—in width along the east side of the square. This strip, by an order of the commissioners, dated March 20, 1835, and recorded on their records the following day, became Greene street. The full record on the street is set forth in the following language from their records:

The Commissioners of Greene County for the purpose and with a view to promote and subserve the interest of the County of Greene and public at large have and do hereby lay out off of the east end of the ground in the Town of Xenia, known and designated as the Public Square, a space of ground thirty-three feet in width, running from Main to Third Street in said town, and bounded on the east by the lots of James Gowdy and Mrs. Williams, said space of thirty-three feet in width to remain forever open and free as one of the public streets of the said town, and it is ordered that a copy of this order be recorded in the Office of the Recorder of the County, and that the Auditor of the County have a copy thereof published in the newspapers of Xenia for three weeks in succession.—The aforesaid street to be known by the name of Greene Street.

James Gowdy was one of the purchasers of lots on the square in 1817, but was not allowed to keep them. It is evident that he was very much interested in having the commissioners set aside a street between his lots and the public square; he may even have appeared before them personally and urged the action which they finally took. But so anxious was he to have the street laid out and maintained that on May 21, 1835, the day the street was set aside, he entered into an agreement whereby he agreed to donate to the county three hundred dollars for its use, the county to return the money to him or his heirs in case it decided to close the street. The money has undoubtedly been spent along time ago. This interesting agreement between the commissioners and Gowdy was as follows:

This is to certify that I have this day made a donation of three hundred dollars to the Commissioners of Greene County, viz., John Fudge, Timothy G. Bates & Ryan Gowdy, and their successors in office, to be used for the benefit of said County so long as a street or alley of thirty-three feet wide, extending from Chillicothe Street to Third Street on the east end of the Public Ground in the Town of Xenia is kept open for a public highway, to be used as other streets and alleys are used in said Town. It is expressly understood that should the above strip of ground at any time be closed or converted to any other use than that of a public street or alley, then the above sum of three hundred dollars is to be returned to me, or my heirs, without interest or damage to the County. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of March, 1835. JAMES GOWDY.

Witness—W. Richards.

And thus was born Greene street, which today is lined with prosperous business houses, and at one time was probably the busiest thoroughfare in the city. With the opening of the street in 1835 the commissioners hoped to get some of the business men of the city to bid on the lease of the lots on the east side of the square. They ordered one lot, the one at the corner of Main and the newly laid out Greene, offered at public auction on May 25, 1835. The lessee was to have the lot for ninety-nine years, was to erect certain kind of buildings thereon, and to pay an annual sum for the first twenty years, the same to be determined by the bidding on the day of the auction. At the expiration of the first twenty years, the land and buildings were to be revalued and a new rental agreed upon. The day for the sale of lease arrived—but no prospective lessees arrived. Evidently the business men of the town would rather erect their buildings on land to which they could get a title in fee simple. No further efforts were made to lease any part of the public square, excepting, of course, the part leased to the city of Xenia, its lease running up to the time of the Civil War.

#### LEGISLATIVE ACTS OF IMPORTANCE TO GREENE COUNTY.

Some punishments provided by the Legislature in 1803:

Treason, murder, rape, malicious maiming and arson—death penalty.

Forgery—30 lashes on bare back with fine equal to sum fraudulently obtained, and disfranchisement.

Counterfeiting—39 lashes on bare back, fine of \$1,000, disfranchisement.

Robbery—59 lashes for first offense; 100 lashes for second.

Larceny—15 lashes for first offense; 30 lashes for second.

Horse stealing—59 lashes for first offense; 100 for second.

The Legislature of 1806-07 passed an act to regulate the squirrel depredations in the state. They were such a pest that farmers in parts of the state lost nearly all of their corn, and during some seasons they came in such droves across the state that they became worse pests than wolves, panthers or any of the wild animals then in the state. This act required every male citizen of military age (from 18 to 45) to turn in annually to the clerk of his township at least 100 squirrel scalps, for which a receipt was given. If less than this number was turned in, or none at all, he was required to pay three cents for each scalp less than the number stipulated. If the fortunate squirrel hunter turned in a number in excess of 100 he was given a receipt for the excess, and they were credited on his next year's quota. The money realized from those failing to turn in the required number of scalps, was divided pro rata at three cents per scalp among those who turned in an excess,



and this remaining excess, if any, was carried forward to their respective credits. No record has been found in Greene county to show how effectively this law was enforced in the county, but undoubtedly many a squirrel scalp found its bloody way to the township clerks of the county.

The legislative act of January 25, 1819, provided for the re-establishment of the line between Greene and Clark counties.

The Legislature of 1830-31 provided for a commissioner of insolvents for each county in the state, who were empowered to grant relief to insolvent debtors and wind up their affairs. The act of March 19, 1838, abolished imprisonment for debt.

The office of prosecuting attorney was filled by appointment from the beginning of the history of the state until the Legislature with the act of February 25, 1833, provided for the direct election of prosecutors by the voters of each county. Prior to that year they had been appointed by the judges of the common pleas courts.

The establishment of agricultural societies was provided for by the act of February 25, 1833.

By the act of March 14, 1836, all the banks in the state were required to pay 20 per cent of their dividends into the state treasury unless they should agree not to circulate bills of a less denomination than three dollars after the fourth of July, 1836, nor less than five dollars after the fourth of July, 1837, in which event the tax was to be five per cent.

The issue of bank bills of a less denomination than three dollars was prohibited after July 4, 1839.

The State Bank of Ohio was incorporated by the act of February 24, 1845. The capital stock was fixed at \$6,150,000. The state was divided into twelve banking districts, and the act specified the maximum number of banks which could be established in each district. At least 30 per cent. of the capital stock of each bank was to be paid in gold or silver coin.

By the act of December 19, 1836, the state of Ohio accepted its proportion of the surplus revenue of the United States, and by the act of March 28, 1837, apportioned it among the counties of the state according to the number of white male inhabitants above the age of twenty-one, to be loaned on good and sufficient security and the income applied to the support of the common schools. All such loans were to be due and payable on or before January 1, 1850. On that date the county commissioners were required to have the same subject to the draft of the treasurer of the state, and by him applied to the extinction of the canal debt of the state, if the Legislature deemed it the best to use the money for that purpose.

During the session of 1838-39 the Legislature elected John Alexander, of Xenia, as Receiver of Monies at Lima.

The Mad River and Lake Erie railroad was chartered in 1838. The lapsed charter of the Little Miami railroad was revived by the act of February 15, 1844. The Columbus and Xenia railroad was chartered by the act of March 12, 1844. The Dayton and Western railroad was chartered by the Legislature with the act of February 4, 1846. The Xenia, Eaton & Indiana railroad was chartered with the act of February 24, 1848. The Cincinnati, Lebanon & Xenia railroad was chartered in 1850.

The office of fence viewer was abolished by the act of January 26, 1843, and the duties of the office turned over to the township trustees. The trustees were allowed seventy-five cents per day when acting in the capacity of fence viewers.

The act of March 4, 1886, abolished the October election, and fixed the date for the state election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, the same date of the presidential election.

#### SALOONS IN GREENE COUNTY.

There can be no question that the days of the saloon are numbered, and the next decade will see most of them gone from the country; in fact, there is every reason to believe that the present proposed amendment to the Federal

Constitution will be ratified by the required number of states, thereby making the entire country "dry." The article on the W. C. T. U. of the county may be referred to for additional facts concerning this federal amendment.

Xenia has now had the saloon or its counterpart for more than a century. It is true that there was a short time within the past few years when the saloon was driven out of the county, but it returned for the reason that a majority of the people felt that it was a good thing for the city. Some people like mince pie and others prefer custard; some people believe in emptying the jails, poor-houses and insane asylums, while others want the saloon. It is all a matter of taste. Certainly if there is any virtue in the saloon the people of Xenia ought to know it by this time; they have had sufficient experience with it to judge its merits.

From available records it appears that the first time Xenia was without a licensed saloon was in 1901, the election on September 3 of that year in Xenia standing 1,116 against and 651 in favor of the saloon. In 1906 the saloons were restored, but the election in the fall of 1908 again made the county "dry," the "dry" majority being 678. Subsequently the saloons were restored and remained open until August 10, 1910, when they again closed their doors. There were no licensed saloons in the county from that time until April 15, 1915, on which day they again opened in all their bibulous glory. The supreme court of the state decided that if a town in the county voted wet, even though the majority in the county was dry, that the town could retain the saloon. Under this decision the saloons of Xenia and Osborn opened their doors on the date above mentioned. While the licensed saloon was not in existence in the county, there was considerable bootlegging and illegal selling of all kinds, and thousands of dollars of fines were assessed by town and county officials—but most of the fines were never paid. They are carried to this day on the official records of the auditor's office. If the county officials cared to add a few thousand dollars to the treasury they might collect some of these fines.

Xenia now has sixteen saloons and Osborn has one. Each saloon pays a license fee of \$1,000, of which the city gets \$500, the state gets \$300, and the county infirmary receives \$200. Some wise man must have had a hand in making the law which provided that some of the money derived from the saloon should go to the county infirmary. Undoubtedly this same man tried to get the saloon tax divided between the infirmary, orphans home, insane asylum and kindred institutions, but the people of the county are to be congratulated that a part of this ill-gotten money goes to the support of the infirmary. For the fiscal year closing July 1, 1917, the saloons of Greene county paid the sum of \$16,582.86 for the privilege of doing business. Unfor-

unately, the official records do not tell how much it cost the county and state to take care of the people who patronized the saloons.

When the next history of Greene county is written there is little probability that the historian will have anything to tell about the saloon. By that time the word will have taken back its original meaning. Therefore, that future generations may know that at one time Xenia had saloons, these facts are set forth. Of the sixteen liquor establishments, variously known as saloons, bars, cafes and drinking parlors, which are to be found in Xenia in the spring of 1918, the records in the county auditor's office show that the property in which the business is transacted is owned in eleven different instances by women.

The only saloon-keeper in Xenia who has discontinued his business during the past year is A. C. Blair, who sold to W. A. Fiste on November 24, 1917. The sixteen licensed liquor dealers in Xenia on April 1, 1918, were as follow: Bert Blair, 16 North Whiteman street; A. E. Brundage, 107 East Main street; Michael Carroll, 102 East Second street; Richard Dengess, South King street; D. A. Donavan, 17 South Whiteman street; M. J. Dugan, 29 North Whiteman street; W. E. Fletcher, 114 South Detroit street; Harris & Harris (only colored saloon), 327 East Main street; John A. Hornick, 122 East Main street; John G. Hornick, 109 East Main street; Huston & Jeffreys, 36 East Second street; J. P. Montgomery, 7 and 9 South Detroit street; Max Simon, 120 East Main street; Henry Sinz, 41 West Main street; Fred A. Harris, 327 East Main street; William A. Fiste, 138 South Detroit street. The only other saloon in the county outside of Xenia is in Osborn, operated by John Oster & Son.

#### MARRIAGE PERMITS.

In early days the pioneer fathers were very rigid about giving their consent to the marriage of their daughters. It was always the practice for the young swain to undergo the ordeal of an interview with the father of the girl of his choice and to gain his consent. This does not mean that the young people never took the matter into their own hands when the father seemed to be obstreperous and without his consent, for there are instances where the pioneer Lochinvar in buckskin breeches, blue jean shirt and coonskin cap carried away his sweetheart from under the vigilant nose of her father. Of course, after their marriage they lived happily ever after. This, however, was not the usual method of procedure. If the young man was a likely chap and he seemed to give promise of being a suitable husband for his daughter, the father would give his consent. But the father's verbal acquiescence was not sufficient for the young man's peace of mind, and the permit of the bride's

father was put into writing and often sworn to before a justice of the peace, as will be noted by the following transcript of an old record:

I hereby authorize the Clerk of Greene County to issue License for the Marriage of John Garvin to Ann Vance, My Daughter, for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given under my hand and seal this 18th Day of June, 1814.

DAVID VANCE, J. P. Vance Tp. G. C.

Witnesses

JOHN McCULLAM (Seal)

DANIEL VANCE (Seal)

Sometimes the permit was not sworn to before a justice of the peace, and the signature of the prospective groom was attached, as follows:

January 26, 1816.—This is to Certify that John B. Lawrence of Ross Township, Greene County, applied to me for my consent to Join in Matrimony with my Daughter, Amelia Vickers, of Vance Township and County of Greene. I have therefore granted the above named John B. Lawrence to marry my daughter in a Lawful manner, agreeable to an act made and found for such cases. Therefore you may grant said Lawrence License for the above named purpose without any doubt of being called in question in any future period.—Given under my hand and seal the day and year above first written, in pursuance of its being done in Vance Township, Greene County.

JOHN B. LAWRENCE.

RUTH VICKERS.

#### LINCOLN IN XENIA IN 1861.

There are still living in Xenia a number of people who can recall the brief stop made by Lincoln in the town on Wednesday, February 13, 1861, while he was on his way from his home in Springfield, Illinois, to Washington, D. C., to be sworn in as President. On this eventful day in Xenia the train bearing him arrived from Cincinnati at 11:55 a. m., and as soon as Lincoln stepped on the rear platform of the train a cannon boomed from the hill adjacent to the Pennsylvania station on the south. He spoke for a few minutes and shook hands with a number of the citizens of the town who were fortunate enough to be near the train.

#### AN OLD-TIME FIDDLER.

One of the most interesting as well as one of the oldest citizens of Xenia at this time is James Jefferies, a retired cabinet-maker, and who now is ninety-six years of age. He is a native of Petersburg, West Virginia, born in 1821, and came with his parents to Greene county and settled near Cedarville. There he hired out to a cabinet-maker in order to learn the trade and among his first duties was to assist in making coffins, which were then very much in demand because of the scourge of cholera which was then raging in the county. After he had become proficient he moved to Xenia and began working at his trade there. In 1870 he, with his nephew, erected a large brick building, which is now a part of the R. A. Kelley Company's cordage plant on West Market street, for the purpose of manufacturing furniture. They also had a

store on Greene street. James Jefferies in his earlier years sought surcease from his day's work in his violin, on which he played all the old-time melodies, such as "Arkansas Traveler," "Turkey in the Straw," "Money Musk," and the like. It is worthy of note that Mr. Jefferies was present with his violin on the occasion of the first speech delivered by Whitelaw Reid. This was the occasion of the commencement exercises in a little school near Cedarville and the future ambassador to England was one of the graduates. On this occasion Mr. Jefferies furnished the music with his old violin.

#### THE RENTED FARM.

Among the numerous poems that have had their origin in Greene county none has probably been more widely quoted than "The Rented Farm," which was written by W. A. Paxson, of Jamestown, years ago and which was originally published by the *Stockman* at Pittsburgh, and which, by request, has been reprinted by that journal no fewer than a half dozen times. The poem also has found its way into numerous other farm journals and newspapers and has thus gained wide circulation over the country, earning its right to be here definitely preserved as a valuable contribution to Greene county literature.

'Tis said that "Those who till the ground  
 Have always most contentment found."  
 In other words, the self-same thought,  
 That "Those who have with nature wrought  
 Should never play the rustic clown  
 Who sold his farm and moved to town."  
 But if old maxims can't prevail  
 Be pleased to hear our o'ertrue tale:  
 Old Farmer Hobson years ago  
 Acquired the name of "Honest Joe."  
 He and his wife, Melissa Jane,  
 Lived in the house by "Maple Lane"  
 So long that all the neighbors said  
 That "until he and she were dead  
 They both would stay upon the farm."  
 There they were both secure from harm—  
 No noisy brawls to pierce their ears—  
 Nor riots dire to raise their fears;  
 There for almost three score of years  
 They lived in peace, so far as known,  
 Until their boys and girls were "grown  
 And married off." And then, alone,  
 Like two old doves, mated for life,  
 Lived Farmer Hobson and his wife.  
 Their children all had "settled down,"  
 Some in the country, some in town.  
 And spite the little jealous cricks  
 That will spring up between young chicks  
 They were all "doing well enough."  
 Said Honest Joe, "not half so tough

A time they have got to get along  
As Jane and I when we were young.”  
And every year at least one day,  
Sometime in winter, sometimes May,  
In mem’ry of the natal day,  
Of father or of mother dear,  
Who both were born the self-same year,  
They’d get together, one and all,  
Both young and old, and great and small,  
And the old house would fairly ring,  
As they would laugh and talk and sing;  
And swift the hours would speed away  
Upon this anniversary day.  
Then to their homes again they’d hie,  
Like birds that to their nestlings fly,  
And, with sad eyes, poor Joe and Jane  
Would say, “Good-bye! Come soon again!”  
And at the gate—the old yard gate—  
They’d stand and look, and sob, and wait  
Until the last was out of sight,  
Then turn and “do their chores for night.”  
And with soft hearts alone again  
Were left old farmer Joe and Jane,  
Both growing old, and child-like, too,  
As old folks are most apt to do—  
For to us all the years go past,  
And whirl us through the world so fast,  
Old age comes creeping on apace  
Ere manhood learns its sphere to grace,  
And almost ere we are aware  
Our heads are silvered o’er with care.  
And thus the years went swiftly by,  
As to the happy years do fly,  
Until a year or so ago,  
A city friend said: “Uncle Joe,  
Why don’t you come to town to live?  
There is no use for you to strive  
As you two do. Take my advice  
And move to town; ’twill be so nice.  
Rent out your farm for money rent;  
’Twill make you more, not lose a cent,  
And so much easier you can live,  
And have so much more time to give  
To visiting, and such as that,”  
And thus concluded this chit-chat.  
When Farmer Hobson that same day  
Went slowly plodding on his way,  
He mused upon this “brand new” theme,  
And prodded up his sluggish team,  
And looked around, as if ashamed,  
And wondered if his team were lamed  
By such brisk driving. Then again,  
He slowly plodded down the lane,  
As if he feared to meet dear Jane.

His chores soon done, the horses fed,  
 The wagon put beneath the shed,  
 The harness hung upon the pin,  
 The "mill-feed" placed within the bin,  
 The cattle tied within their stall,  
 The calves supplied, had ceased to bawl,  
 The pigs from squealing had desisted,  
 And Uncle Joe had just assisted  
 Aunt Jane to milk the two fat cows,  
 And walked beside her to the house  
 With well-filled pail upon his arm,  
 And glanced about him o'er the farm.  
 The evening meal was then prepared,  
 Their thankfulness in words declared  
 By Uncle Joe. The meal in silence masticated,  
 When Aunt Jane, somewhat agitated,  
 Said, "What's the matter? Hain't you well?  
 What's happened that you hate to tell?  
 I've noticed you for'n hour or so—  
 You act so queer—what is it, Joe?"  
 Said Honest Joe, as he wiped the dew  
 That from his brain had oozed through,  
 "I don't know whether to or not—  
 I haven't given it 'second thought'—  
 But then I guess I might as well  
 The whole from the beginning tell,  
 And so, to make it short, that Mr. Brown  
 Asked me today to move to town,  
 To rent the farm and get the cash,  
 And go to town and 'cut a dash.'"  
 "Yes, and everything 'go to smash.'"  
 Said Jane. "It's no wonder, Joe,  
 That you behaved so curious—no!  
 If that's what's worrying your mind,  
 Rest easy, then; we're not the kind  
 Of folks to lead a city life—  
 You and your plain old country wife.  
 We've lived here happy and contented  
 And this farm never shall be rented  
 As long as I'm alive. You've heard my say—  
 I'll live here till my dyin' day.  
 I helped to pay for this here farm,  
 And I would rather lose my arm  
 Than see it go to stranger's hands.  
 No, Joe, we're fixtures on these lands;  
 As they say, in them law instruments,  
 We're 'tenants and hereditaments'—  
 Belong to the farm as much as the fences,  
 And surely you must have lost your senses  
 To think for a minute that *I* would go  
 To town to live—no, never, Joe."  
 Joe sat and never "opened his head,"  
 But listened to every word she said;  
 For he had learned this lesson in life—

To never contradict his wife,  
But let her go and have her *say*,  
And in the end he'd have his *way*.  
Thus matters rested for several days,  
They each pursued their several ways,  
And neither referred to the matter again,  
Till at last the subject was broached by Jane.  
Says she: "Well, Joe, what would you say  
If I was to tell you that I to-day  
Had concluded to go to town awhile,  
To just pleasè you. We can give it a trial.  
I'm getting old, as well as you,  
And there wouldn't be half so much to do.  
We could live so nice, just you and I,  
And if *you* like it, I will try  
To do my best to be contented—  
But I hate to see the old farm rented."  
But, to be brief, they moved to town,  
In a house quite near to Mr. Brown,  
The farm was rented out for cash,  
To a farmer who was bold and rash.  
And, first, he didn't like the way  
The fences run, and so away  
He moved the rails that years ago  
Had been placed there by Uncle Joe;  
He plowed up all the "little lots"  
Which had been seeded down in plots  
Of choicest grass to suit the taste  
Of their old owner; and to waste  
Went all the work of many years  
Which almost brought his eyes to tears.  
The orchard, filled with choicest fruits,  
Became a pasture for the brutes,  
Which gnawed and browsed, and barked the trees,  
And many more such things as these  
Occurred, to show that the old farm  
Was in the way of direful harm.  
The windows, broke, were stuffed with rags,  
The gate upon the hinges sags;  
The "palings" off, and in the yard  
The pigs and cattle standing guard  
Around the door, and 'neath the bowers  
Of Uncle's grapes and Auntie's flowers,  
Her Hollyhocks and beds of roses  
Were marked by little "porker" noses,  
Her pinks and peonies, daisies, too,  
Made fragrant cuds for cows to chew,  
While "horning" at the evergreens,  
And rubbing down the myrtle screens,  
The Honeysuckle's fragrant boughs  
Had gone to deck these selfsame cows.  
The garden gate was on the ground  
While in the garden might be found  
A drove of pigs, whose lusty snouts  
Were turning up the currant sprouts;



While others, as if in rage,  
Were "rooting out" the thyme and sage  
Which Old Aunt Jane, with tender care,  
Long years ago had planted there.  
Old farmer Joe came down the lane  
To "see the things," and good Aunt Jane  
Concluded that she would come along  
"To get some air" and hear the song  
Of those old birds which every spring  
Came around the old farm-house to sing.  
And, as they slowly neared the house,  
And spied the yard well-filled with cows,  
The gates all standing open wide,  
They both with sorrow almost cried—  
For when they saw the work of years,  
The objects of their hopes and fears,  
All gone to ruin, naught but tears  
Could drown their grief. "'S too bad! 'S too bad!"  
Said Uncle Joe. "It makes me sad  
To think that what we so much prized  
Should be destroyed as if despised."  
They rapped at the old "parlor" door,  
Where *they* had never rapped before,  
But where the guests of many years  
Had come to mingle joys and tears  
With them, here through this door  
They ne'er as strangers passed before;  
But now as guests in their own home  
Must they at this time only come,  
And here again they did behold  
What they had prized far more than gold  
Had been abused and marred—destroyed.  
Those snowy walls with filth were cloyed;  
The "spare room" into kitchen turned;  
A maiden in the "parlor" churned;  
The walls were pasted over with scraps,  
And nails on which hung hats and caps;  
The "mantel piece" with "marbled stripes,"  
Was filled with old tobacco pipes;  
The wood work, spotless when they left,  
Was now of paint almost bereft;  
And all about was so much changed,  
No wonder that they felt estranged.  
They looked about, but so dumfounded,  
By the destruction which surrounded  
Them on right and left, that they  
Declared "they hadn't time to stay,  
But must go back to town again"  
Both Uncle Joe and dear Aunt Jane.  
It was "too much." They both "broke down"  
Before they reached their home in town;  
But not one word did either say,  
Except Aunt Jane, who (by the way)  
Remarked, as they came down the lane:  
"Well, Joe, you can't blame this on Jane."

## LASTLY: THE STUDY OF BIOGRAPHY.

History, after all, is but collective biography. The collective biographies of the individuals composing a community, under the analysis of the thoughtful student of biography, become the history of the community thus composed. Particularly is this true of such a community as that of which this work treats. The basic elements of the population of Greene county have had representation here since the days of the beginning of an organic government in this section. The grandfathers and the great-grandfathers of the men who are now accounted leaders in the social and civic life of this community were the men who brought this community into being; the men who leveled the forests, founded the towns and villages and wrought here that wonder of human progress which we call civilization, wresting from an arrested and non-progressive race one of the fairest and most productive spots on the globe. The men who settled this region were men of wide vision, men possessed of the true pioneering spirit, men to whom the lure of the farther horizon was irresistible, and the work that they did here was well done. The foundations they laid were broad and deep and it is gratifying to note that their descendants in the main have seen fit here to remain, erecting on those foundations a superstructure of such proportions as to carry far the name and the fame of Greene county.

The second volume of this work, to which the attention of the reader now passes, has to do with the biographies of the leading families of Greene county; these representing, naturally, in the main what commonly and properly are known as "the old families" of the county. The thoughtful reader of the concluding volume of this work cannot fail in his perusal of its pages to be impressed with the truth of the statement which introduces this "lastly" of the first volume. For in this collection of biographies is found much of the heretofore unwritten history of Greene county; intimate and informative details of the lives and the labors of those stalwart men who took possession here, made history and then passed on, leaving to their descendants the task of carrying on the great work they had so laboriously and so unselfishly begun. Theirs was a pure labor of love, for no reward of a temporal character could requite the hardships they underwent in order that their posterity might benefit in the possession of fixed habitations and abiding places here on the spot which their clear vision recognized as wholly desirable. In the generations which have succeeded, these "old families" in the main have persisted. In a few instances perhaps some of these families have no representation here in the present generation, but these instances are so few as to prove the exception. In the nature of things, intermarriages in these families have been frequent, so that there has arisen here a fine community of interest based upon ties that bind this community as few such

in the state are bound; creating, in fact, a real community, a fine, neighborly relation in which all share and in which all take a proper pride.

Due to these intermarriages and the continuing relations borne by the "old families" to the work of this community, the biographies contained in the succeeding pages will be found to cross and to recross, repeated references being found to the work done by the original settlers in establishing neighborly relations here. There will also be noted throughout these pages repeated references to the influence exerted by the various church establishments that were set up here in the then wilderness in the days of the pioneers and of the manner in which the influence of these respective establishments has persisted in the families now representing the pioneer stock. Other relations will be noted by the thoughtful reader, and it is to these that special attention is called, for in all this correlation there will be found much that will help in the critical interpretation of the real history of the community which the historian has so understandingly presented in the pages which precede this. Therefore the biographical volume of this work will be found to possess as much of value to the student of history as has the historical volume and its pages should be read with as much care, for therein oftentimes will be found statements of fact that will make clear passages in the present volume that otherwise might not carry their full meaning save to those fully informed regarding the history of their home county. To the intelligent student of biography the following volume ought to prove a veritable "mine" of interest and to him is addressed a special invitation to give the succeeding pages his most thoughtful attention. If read from a correlative viewpoint they will be found to be not only wonderfully informative but intensely interesting.















